



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation—Iraq has "no ambitions in Iranian territory" and its forces are completing their withdrawal to the international border in accordance with a specific timetable, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement to INA 24 July.

A military communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio the same day likewise stressed that Iraq has no intention of penetrating deeper inside Iran, even though it is capable of doing so. The III Army Corps has already withdrawn from positions which it captured on the southern front over the weekend, the communique said, adding that Iran's claim to have "liberated" these territories "makes one laugh."

An earlier communique carried by Baghdad radio noted that Iraq's II Army Corps also advanced along a 170-km front on the central sector in operations aimed at recapturing remaining pockets of Iraqi territory and at taking the largest possible number of Iranian prisoners.

Over 8,000 Iranian prisoners were captured during the II and III Corps operations over the weekend, according to a communique cited by the radio. Baghdad radio also broadcast a communique which acknowledged the loss of two Iraqi aircraft over Iranian territory 24 July.

For Iran's part, Tehran radio and IRNA stated that Iranian forces beat back the Iraqi "invasion" in the southern and central fronts after the Iraqis advanced to within 40 km of Ahvaz and captured several Iranian border towns, including Qasr-e Shirin, Gilan-e Gharb, and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab.

The Iranian reports alleged that Iraq used chemical weapons and cluster bombs in these attacks. Iranian troops "liberated" most of the Iranian territory on the southern front by 25 July. Tehran radio stated, adding that only 50 sq km of the Zeydi area remains in Iraqi hands.

However, the Iraqis are still occupying over 4,000 sq km of Iranian territory in the central sector, the radio added, noting that this includes the towns of Mehran, Naft-e Shahr, Sumar, Qasr-e Shirin, and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab. Iranian forces recaptured Gilan-e Gharb 24-25 July and drove the Iraqis 10 km west, the radio said.

On Iraqi losses, IRNA claimed that Iranian troops inflicted over 9,000 casualties on "Iraqi occupation forces" in Khuzestan. The agency also stated that Iraqi General Tahir 'Abd al-Rashid, commander of the 3d Armored Division, was killed in the fighting on the southern front. The Iraqi military command announced that Al-Rashid was killed in a plane crash, WAKH noted.

As for the effects of Iraqi air strikes, IRNA reported that Iraq has launched 20 air raids on Iranian industrial and residential targets since Iran announced its acceptance of Resolution 598, killing over 40 people and wounding over 150. The casualties included 15 people killed in raids on Karand-e Gharb and Eslamabad-e Gharb over the weekend.

In a message to the Iranian nation broadcast by Tehran radio 24 July, President 'Ali Khamene'i urged people to "rush to the assistance of the Armed Forces" and announced he would personally take his "worthless body and life to the fronts" to perform the "divine duty and obligation." The radio also reported the departure of "thousands" of IRGC and Basij forces for the war fronts.

Diplomatic, Political Moves—Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz will be Iraq's "authorized representative" who will go to New York to discuss implementation of UN Resolution 598, an Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman disclosed in a statement to INA 22 July. While confirming Iraq's willingness to receive a UN technical team to discuss measures to implement the cease-fire, the spokesman stressed that the date of the cease-fire is a political issue that must be discussed with 'Aziz.

The spokesman also emphasized that the fixing of dates will "only be made within the framework of the negotiations proposed by us" and subject to the approval of "the competent Iraqi authorities." Concerning the framework proposed by Iraq, the spokesman reaffirmed his country's call for direct negotiations with Iran under UN auspices.

In Iran, President Khamene'i viewed the Iraqi call for direct talks as an Iraqi "excuse" to avoid implementing the UN resolution, but he nevertheless acknowledged that "direct talks will come in their own time, when the task requires that direct talks be held."

Under present circumstances the UN secretary general must act as mediator, he said, but it is "possible" that direct talks may take place "in the course of the venture." Khamene'i, who was speaking in a Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio, also told his audience that he cannot yet disclose the "factors and events" which induced Iran to accept the UN resolution, but he added that "the time will come when we can explain."

The radio also broadcast a message from Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, who lauded Imam Khomeyni's "decisive and courageous" decision to accept a cease-fire and called on the nation to reaffirm its allegiance to Khomeyni. Montazeri also urged Iranian officials to start planning the reconstruction of the country and to prepare for "fundamental struggle" against the United States and Israel. Meanwhile, IRNA reported the arrival in Tehran 24 July of a 5-man UN team assigned to study the situation of POW's in Iran and Iraq. In another development, the Tehran paper JOMHURI-YE

ESLAMI reported that Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov proposed that Iranian and Iraqi representatives hold talks in a Muslim city of the USSR, according to IRNA.

The paper said the offer was made during Vorontsov's recent talks in Tehran, KYODO noted in a related report. A TASS review of Vorontsov's visit to Tehran did not mention any such proposal.

Saudi Arabia: Pilgrimage

A "responsible source" made a statement accusing Iran of "totally" fabricating reports that hundreds of hajj pilgrims demonstrated against "specific countries," according to SPA. Tehran radio said Saudi police were "extremely terrified" and attacked demonstrators as they chanted "slogans of unity."

Iranian President Khamene'i delivered a sermon in Tehran 22 July calling the hajj one of the two "basic, important issues" facing Iranian society, the radio reported. Citing Ayatollah Khomeini's recent message to the nation, Khamene'i said Muslims misunderstood the hajj and did not feel its "spirit."

He said the hajj had become "a commercial, touristic trip" whose stewards wanted Muslims to come and "throw them their money." Last year's violence in Mecca "succeeded in shaking the Islamic world's conscience," Khamene'i added.

Israel

U.S. Allegations—U.S. independent counsel James McKay's report, which claimed U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese "probably" offered payoffs to the Labor party in exchange for a pledge by Foreign Minister Peres not to attack an Iraqi oil pipeline, was dismissed by Foreign Ministry sources as "absurd," according to THE JERUSALEM POST. The sources called McKay's investigation "indiscreet and amateurish" and said his questions "would remain unanswered," THE POST added.

Occupied Territories—Two men died after being shot by security forces during weekend riots in Qabatiyah and Bayt Jala, IDF radio reported. An Arab and an Israeli were injured when Christian youths rioted in Jerusalem after a funeral procession, Jerusalem radio stated.

Libya

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi told an Italian newspaper that Libya "does not feel tranquil" about Italy's decision to accept U.S. F-16 fighter planes, ANSA disclosed. Al-Qadhafi called the Italian decision "a big political error" and said it "threatens and compromises" peace in the Mediterranean.

Tunisia

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, in celebration of 'Id al-Adha and "Republic Day," pardoned 932 prisoners sentenced for crimes "against public rights" and in certain "political cases" including the Islamic Tendency Movement, the Yusifi movement, and the Gafsa incidents, Tunis radio reported.

Iraq-Sudan

An Iraqi Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed "amazement" at a Sudanese Government statement on the January assassination in Khartoum of a prominent Shi'ite opposition leader, INA reported. The Iraqi Government was "very surprised" at the statement and "had not expected such behavior" from an Arab country, the spokesman said. He called the Sudanese statement "a serious precedent" in inter-Arab relations since it is based on "mere doubts and suspicion."

The Sudanese charges are "unacceptable and baseless" and Sudan will be held responsible for any consequences, the spokesman said. The Foreign Ministry decided to urgently summon the ambassador in Khartoum, INA disclosed.

The Sudanese Council of Ministers issued the statement after an investigation into the assassination "ended in a deadlock" because the police were unable to interrogate the suspect, "a certain diplomat at the Iraqi Embassy," SUNA reported.

Iran-Romania

Iran and Romania signed a 1.18 billion dollar industrial and trade protocol, IRNA noted. The Iranian plan and budget minister was in Bucharest for a joint economic commission session and met with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, IRNA added.

Afghanistan

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman issued a statement denying Western reports that the USSR has suspended its troop withdrawal from Afghanistan and brought in 10,000 more, Moscow television reported. Pakistani President Ziaul Haq's claim at a news conference that the new troops were brought in to defend Kabul were "irresponsible and provocative," the statement maintained. Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, called Zia's claim a "sheer lie," according to TASS.

Akhromeyev said the troop withdrawal is going on "in keeping with the Geneva accords." Zia cited "very reliable" reports that Moscow informed the United Nations that the troops had been brought in because the situation in Kabul was "untenable," AFP reported. Islamabad radio reports of Zia's news conference did not mention his remarks on Afghanistan.

Ten Kabul residents were killed 24 July when "extremists" fired 10 rockets at "densely populated" residential areas "near mosques" during 'Id al-Adha services, TASS reported. Two children died in an earlier rocket attack on the city, BAKHTAR reported.

The French Embassy sustained damage 23 July when it was hit by a rocket, according to Paris radio. Twelve died in missile attacks on Jalalabad and Marawar, Kabul radio noted.

President Najibullah intends to resign because of the "prevailing chaotic situation" in the country, according to claims by the Afghan resistance news agency cited by XINHUA. Najibullah postponed his decision until early August after being asked by Soviet advisers to "reconsider," the resistance sources said. The sources claimed the interior minister was "arrested and dispatched" to the USSR and the head of security at the presidential palace deserted and joined the rebels. XINHUA reported.

Pakistan

The nine major political parties have rejected President Zia's decision not to allow party identification of candidates in the 16 November elections, AFP reported. Opposition leader Benazir Bhutto vowed to challenge Zia's decision in the Supreme Court to "seek a legal and constitutional solution," Delhi radio said. Zia reiterated at a news conference that he has no intention of banning political parties' activities but candidates will have to come to the elections "on their own accord," Islamabad radio's English service reported.

Zia called the political parties mere "pressure groups" that have proved themselves "ineligible for electoral politics at the national level," according to an Islamabad radio report on the news conference. Zia also discussed the recent unrest in Sind Province and said it would "be soon overcome."

Pakistan has proof of India's "interference" in Sind by "trying to isolate it from the rest of the country," Zia contended.

A "powerful time bomb" exploded outside an Army officers mess in Peshawar but no one was injured, AFP reported.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Says 'Uprising' To Enter 'Fourth Phase'

JN2407182688 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1800 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has announced that the Palestinian uprising is about to enter its fourth phase, which is partial [civil] disobedience, then a comprehensive strike, then taking up arms. He said no decision has been made so far to resort to arms. 'Arafat was speaking while celebrating 'Id al-Adha with the Palestinian forces in the YAR.

'Uprising' Leadership Issues Call No 22

JN2207054188 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic
1658 GMT 21 Jul 88

["Call No 22, issued by the PLO, the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, call of the blessed Al-Adha" on 21 July—place not given]

[Text] O masses of our great people: Your triumphant uprising is escalating day after day, achieving further accomplishments and forging its way ahead with a relentless will and a strong militant unity based on the constants of national Palestinian action represented by our people's national rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state on national soil with Arab Jerusalem as its capital.

The PLO, the Unified National Leadership, while congratulating our masses, our resisting people's masses, and the masses of our Arab nation and the Islamic nation on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Adha, calls for further unity of ranks and consolidation of the militant national unity of all the national and religious forces to employ all the people's energies in resisting the fascist occupation because the enemy is our common enemy, who does not distinguish between one citizen and another, and there is no room for opening gaps among the ranks of our masses at a time when we are in dire need of the unity of militant efforts and intensification of painful blows to the decaying fabric of occupation that is gradually falling apart.

Our people's masses have succeeded in gaining large-scale world support for our people's rights and our national cause, in disrupting several occupation organs, in increasing contradictions within the Zionist entity, in splitting its political, economic, military, and popular institutions, in promoting and entrenching the people's national authority, and in foiling all frail alternatives to the PLO as our people's sole legitimate representative. The new and evolving patterns of our masses' lives and the forms and methods of their confrontation of the occupation authorities' repressive policies are only an indication that the uprising has entered a qualitatively new stage.

O struggling masses of our people, what is happening in the Lebanese arena against our people's masses and the struggling Palestinian rifle is a link in the American scheme aimed at liquidating the militant Palestinian presence in the Lebanese arena.

What the dissident clique, led by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muraghah], has perpetrated against our revolution and the PLO and our kinfolk in Lebanon was a stab in the back of our people's blessed uprising.

We call on Syria to immediately stop the scheme of liquidation and spare the Sidon area from what happened in the valiant Burj al-Barajinah and Shatila camps. We call on all the revolution factions and the friendly Lebanese forces to stand up like one man to defend our people's rights in the camps of steadfastness in Lebanon.

The Unified National Leadership, while greeting the legendary confrontation demonstrated by the Jerusalem masses in defense of our sanctities and the attempts to desecrate and destroy them, calls on our people's masses to stick to our sanctities and to firmly confront with blood and fire the Zionist interior committee's decision to resume excavations under the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque.

The Unified National Leadership, while praising the heroic epics scored by our masses in the rebelling Bayt Sahur, steadfast Qalqilyah, and all besieged and burning areas, emphasizes the following:

Full abidance by all that came in the previous calls on resignations, boycotts, and organization of citizens' lives. The importance of continuing to set up popular committees and support them by rallying around them, seeking their help in solving all problems, and backing their implementation of their programs, considering them the people's alternative authority to the occupation authority's organs and appointed committees.

Bolstering and intensifying popular education programs to counter the occupation authorities' stultification policy of closing schools and other institutions. The academic program of the tawjihi [final scholastic year] students should be intensified and the release of detained students should be demanded so they can take their examinations.

Commending our people's sons in the occupied territories who responded to the calls of the Unified National Leadership to destroy enemy property and to deal blows to its forces. We call on them to actualize their support for our people's uprising and ask them not to respond to the occupation authorities' attempts to recruit them in its organs and departments in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. They should foil the attempt to involve them in this dirty scheme.

Commending the stand taken by the government hospitals—administrations, doctors, and staff—for refusing to obey the authorities' unfair instructions on the rendering of medical services to our people.

The abidance of government department employees, with the exception of the health apparatus, by the days of general strikes.

The firm and collective confrontation of the tax authority and refraining from yielding to its blackmail. The steadfastness of Bayt Sahur should be taken as an example in confronting the tax collection men.

Prohibiting the payment of fines and bail money.

Caution should be taken against the intelligence methods of using men pretending to be newsmen and news agency correspondents and using local public and private cars in surveillance and arrest operations. Caution, all caution against poisonous rumors disseminated by enemy organs, intelligence, and agents.

Commendation of our kinfolk's struggle in Jericho and Al-'Awja'. We call on them not to be carried away by the tendentious rumors being disseminated by the occupation authorities to split our masses' unity. Such rumors should be firmly confronted.

Total boycott of Israeli centers of tourism and recreation as a contribution to besieging the Zionist economy.

On the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Adha, the Unified National Leadership announces that shops shall open on Friday and Saturday morning, 22 and 23 July, until 1900. On the 'Id days they will open until 1400. It stresses the need to cancel all celebrations on the 'Id days; these will be confined to religious rituals. There shall be economic expenditures and the 'Id sermon should be devoted to the uprising and the dangers posed to the holy places.

In confirmation of the Unified National Leadership's decision, factories can work with full production capacity for any time they deem fit in coordination with the labor committees, while preserving the workers' rights, especially when working additional hours. Moreover, the public vehicles' working time is not confined to certain hours as is the case with the commercial sector. It should be stressed, however, that general strikes should be observed.

The Unified National Leadership, while greeting the striking teams for their effective role in confronting the occupation forces and their organs and departments and those violating our masses' will, calls on them to strike with an iron fist all those who did not resign. They are required to close the streets on the days of general strikes and allow only doctors' cars to pass. They should also write unified national slogans that should be signed only by the Unified National Leadership. Flags should be hoisted, demonstrations organized, tires burned, and stones and Molotov cocktails thrown.

While making a pledge to our revolution, righteous martyrs, and the PLO, the leader of our struggle, that it will continue the path of struggle and escalate the uprising along the road of freedom and independence, the Unified National Leadership calls on our masses to carry out the following militant activities:

1. Celebrating the 'Id days by organizing mass processions to visit the martyrs' tombs and place wreaths of flowers and Palestinian flags on them, staging mammoth demonstrations, and visiting the families of martyrs, wounded, detainees, and deportees.
2. Saying prayers for the souls of martyrs on Fridays and Sundays. Demonstrations and marches will be staged in protest against the occupation authorities' practices against our Islamic and Christian holy places.
3. On 29 July there will be a day of general strike in solidarity with the Palestinian female detainees and in protest against the oppression and harassment to which they are exposed.
4. On 1 and 2 August there will be days of a general strike in solidarity with the deportees and in denunciation of the arbitrary deportation orders.
5. On 21 July - 5 August there will be militant activities and mammoth mass confrontations as well as consecration of the people's authority, consolidation of the popular committees, enhancement of popular education, and performance of distinguished activities in solidarity with those harmed by the triumphant uprising.

It is according to the will of the martyrs that we proceed and resist and we will triumph.

Signed: The Unified National Leadership of the Uprising, 21 July 1988

Chad

President Habre Calls on Libyans To Make Peace

AB2407205188 Ndjamenan Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Excerpts] The Chadian Muslim community, along with Muslims throughout the entire world, celebrated the ram festival today, that is 'Id al-Qabir which was marked by a great prayer at the Faisal Mosque of Ndjamenan in the presence of President Hissein Habre. After the prayer, the members of the Islamic Committee went to the presidential palace to present their greetings to the head of state.

In his speech, Imam Badoyam presented his wishes of happiness, health, and longevity to the president and recalled his achievements since coming to power. [passage omitted]

Replying, President Habre expressed his wishes of happiness, health, and prosperity to all Muslims and to Chadians in general. He then called on the Chadian people to pray to the Almighty to consolidate the country's achievements, namely, unity, security, reconciliation, stability, and peace. [passage omitted] Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] Concerning peace, I would like to say that many efforts have been made over the past few days in Africa and in friendly countries for new relations between Chad and Libya, a new atmosphere of detente, and an era of peace between them. The Chadian people and their leaders have always wished sincerely for—and have worked hard for—an end to the conflict between the two countries and peoples.

Because our people sincerely hope for peace and we believe that Chad's economic, social, and cultural progress depends on peace, I would like to take advantage of today, that is 'Id al-Kabir day, to tell our Libyan brothers and neighbors that it is time, as believers in Allah, to bury the hatchet to make way for fraternity, relations of good neighborliness, friendship, and cooperation. I mean a sincere and loyal peace with honor, dignity, and respect for everyone's rights and dignity, and not a peace of mere words and propaganda.

This is why I call on our Libyan neighbors and brothers to support their statements with specific actions. As for Chadian people and their country, we have on every occasion demonstrated our good faith, our sincerity, and deep love for peace.

To the Chadian people, I say we should continue our struggle, that is the struggle to preserve our territory's integrity, to rebuild our country, the struggle for economic, social, and cultural progress, and for our unity.

Let us continue to be vigilant and foil any attempts from inside or outside the country to stop our struggle for reconstruction, unity, peace, and stability. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Cabinet Meets 21 Jul, Examines Two Loans

AB2207120388 Ndjamenan Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 21 Jul 88

[Communique issued by Information Minister Adoum Moussa Seif, spokesman for the government, on the Cabinet meeting in Ndjamenan on 21 July]

[Text] The Cabinet has met under the chairmanship of His Excellency El Hadj Hissein Habre, president of the Republic and head of state. It has examined two items on the agenda concerning the Ministry of Finance and Computerization. The first item concerns an additional collective budget allocation of 1.5 billion CFA francs. This additional budget allocation will enable eight ministries to function normally. They are the Ministries of Agriculture, Education, Health, Social Affairs and Promotion of Women, Transport and Civil Aviation, Tourism and Environment, Public Works, and Livestock and Rural Water Supplies.

Articles 1 and 2 of Ordinance 029/87 relative to the 1988 general budget will therefore be rectified taking into account the increase in expenses and receipts of the recurrent budget which was made possible through the granting of this large credit for rehabilitation by the International Development Agency, IDA, and the African Development Fund, ADF.

The Cabinet then studied an ordinance that authorized the government to approve an 800-million-CFA-franc loan for the refurbishment of 8 apartments and the construction of 12 villas with all modern amenities for French cooperation workers whose housing by the Chadian Government was stipulated in the cooperation agreement. The loan will be refundable in 30 years with a grace period of 10 years and an interest rate of (1.7 to 2 percent). After examining the document and making some recommendations relating to the strict monitoring of the project and adherence to procedures, the Cabinet gave its go-ahead for the project situated in the (Boguinard) ward.

Issued in Ndjamenan on 21 July 1988

Egypt

Security Forces Raid Escapees' Hideout

NC2507132588 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT
25 Jul 88

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jul (MENA)—Interior Ministry security forces have succeeded in discovering the place where three convicts who escaped from the Turrah prison on 17 July had been hiding. It was an apartment in Al-Shurabiyah.

The security forces raided the escapees' hiding place early this morning. A clash with firearms followed and 'Isam al-Din Muhammad Kamal al-Qamari, one of the escaped convicts, was killed. Two security forces members were injured but not seriously.

The security forces also found a quantity of grenades and the clothes which the convicts used during their escape from prison.

The Interior Ministry issued the following statement today:

As part of the efforts which the Interior Ministry services have been making to capture the three convicts who escaped at dawn on 17 July, from the Turrah prison, where they were serving life sentences as a result of Supreme State Security Case 462 of 1981, state security investigators discovered that these elements had hidden in one of the apartments in the Al-Shurabiyah area in Cairo.

At an early hour today, 25 July, the security forces stormed this hideout. Those residing there opened fire at the security forces and used explosive charges. However, the security forces succeeded in taking control of the hideout. The storming operation resulted in the death of fugitive convict 'Isam al-Din Muhammad Kamal al-Qamari. Two soldiers were also wounded in the shooting. Their condition is good.

During a search of the hideout, a quantity of plastic bombs, the prison uniforms which the fugitives were wearing when they escaped from the Turrah prison, and other materials were found. The state security prosecution was notified and then assumed the investigation of the incident.

'Isam al-Qamari, Khamis Musallah, and Muhammad al-Aswani, the three convicts, were members of the Jihad organization who were serving life sentences with hard labor under Higher State Security case 462 for 1981. They had succeeded in making a well-planned escape from the Turrah prison. They used iron bars, bombs they had manufactured from the heads of match sticks, a number of bottles full of inflammable material, and a ladder made of cloth and wood in their escape.

Muslim Fundamentalists Clash in Asyut 23 Jul
NC2407070888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0645 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Violent clashes occurred among Muslim fundamentalists in the Egyptian city of Asyut last night. Approximately 13 persons, including three Egyptian policemen, were injured.

Mubarak Phones Husayn, Discusses Developments
JN2407052688 Amman Domestic Service in English
0430 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] His majesty the king received yesterday evening a telephone call from Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak during which the two leaders exchanged congratulations on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha. The two leaders discussed the latest developments in the Arab situation and cooperation between the two countries. They also discussed the visit that Egyptian Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi will make to Jordan this week.

Dr Sidqi will carry a message from President Mubarak to his majesty the king.

'Arafat Congratulates Mubarak on Revolution Day
JN2307175288 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
21 Jul 88 p 14

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has sent a message of congratulations to President Husni Mubarak on the anniversary of the 23 July revolution. In the message, he voices the PLO's appreciation for the firm support of President Mubarak and the Egyptian people for the Palestinian people in their struggle to liberate their land and regain their inalienable national rights.

In the message, which was handed to the Egyptian Ambassador in Tunis 'Ali Mahir, 'Arafat expressed his appreciation for and pride in cooperation between the PLO and the Egyptian Government. He also stressed his eagerness to strengthen relations in the service of the two peoples' objectives.

Economy Minister Returns From Visit to UAE
NC2207125688 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT
22 Jul 88

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jul (MENA)—Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade, returned to Cairo from Abu Dhabi this afternoon following a 4-day visit to the UAE during which he met with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nubayyan.

While there, Dr Mustafa signed a protocol for economic and trade cooperation between Egypt and the UAE. He also discussed with UAE officials the necessary procedures for financing through the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Development various land reclamation and investment projects in Egypt, including the establishment of three tourist villages.

More on Islamic Investment Companies Issue

New Companies To Form
JN2207154488 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic
16 Jul 88 p 1

[Text] Dr Muhyi al-Din al-Gharib, deputy chairman of the Investment Authority, has announced that the coming phase will witness the formation of new companies to invest in projects that will achieve a secure return in the shadow of an expanding market.

He said that the Egyptian economy needs the efforts of Islamic investment companies to invest in agriculture and industry.

Security Chief Attacks Officer

JN2207162288 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
17 Jul 88 p 1

[By 'Ala' al-Wakil]

[Text] The chief of security of the Al-Sa'd investment company in Tanta has clashed with a police officer who wanted to regain his deposit. The chief of security refused to give the officer his funds and attacked him.

The Tanta prosecutor is investigating a statement submitted by an inspector in Dumyat security directorate. In the statement, the officer says that he went to the head office of the Al-Sa'd investment company in Tanta. He requested the withdrawal of his 2,000 Egyptian pound fund, but 'Abd al-'Aziz Kamil al-Munsi, chief of security of the company, refused to give him his funds under the company's instructions. He engaged with him in a fight, during which the officer fell on the floor and suffered bruises.

The chief of security was called, and investigations are still underway.

Depositors Demonstrate

JN2207141688 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
18 Jul 88 pp 1,3

[Excerpt] Al-Ahram Street yesterday witnessed a tumultuous demonstration by nearly 2,000 persons who have deposited funds in the Al-Rayyan companies. The depositors gathered outside the company's head office and tried to storm the building.

The security forces were able to control the situation and prevent the depositors from entering the head office. Several of the depositors threw themselves under passing vehicles in an attempt to commit suicide after giving up all hope of regaining their funds.

Traffic in the street was halted for more than 4 hours, and depositors tried to damage cars and shops in the same building.

At 1200 yesterday, about 2,000 of those who deposited their funds in the Al-Rayyan companies headed for the Al-Jizah governorate building to meet Al-Jizah Governor 'Umar 'Abd al-Akhir. When they learned that he was not in, they staged a tumultuous demonstration. They were shouting, demanding the return of their funds, threatening to set fire to the Al-Rayyan companies head office and nearby buildings, and smashing cars that were parked along Al-Ahram Street. The demonstrators reached the company's head office at 350 Al-Ahram

Street. When the company's staff saw them, they hurriedly closed the company's gates. The shops on the ground floor of the building also shut their doors for fear of demonstrators.

Immediately, eight central security vehicles went to the scene and surrounded the building and the governorate to secure the area.

Major General Ahmad Kuhiyah, interior minister's assistant for the security of Al-Jizah; Maj Gen Ibrahim Rasikh, director of the investigation [Department]; Brigadier General Mamduh al-Jawhari, head of the investigation; and Brig Gen Nabih 'Abd al-Salam, inspector of the ministry investigations, moved to the scene and helped some of the clients to meet with the company's staff. They learned from them that the company is not dealing with the public, neither in deposits nor withdrawals, until the issue of the explanatory notes for the law regulating the companies receiving funds from the public.

At that time, depositors started shouting, demanding the return of their funds. The security forces intervened in an attempt to calm them, but did not succeed. Some of them began throwing themselves under vehicles passing in Al-Ahram Street.

Traffic was halted along Al-Ahram Street, from the Al-Jizah Square to the company's head office. Drivers and passengers became frightened, and some fled their cars and ran to the side roads after some demonstrators tried to smash the cars, stop them from moving, and attack their drivers. The security forces, under the supervision of Colonel Muhammad Nur al-Din, inspector of the investigations; Lieutenant Colonel Majdi 'Ukashah; head of Bulaq investigations, persuaded these drivers to return to their cars and move them to facilitate traffic flow. Some ladies were rescued from under the wheels of vehicles, while others fainted and ambulances were called to aid them.

The security forces managed to control the situation by calling Ahmad Tawfiq 'Abd al-Fattah, chairman of the board of directors, to meet clients and calm them down. But he did not turn up. Officers promised to meet the chairman of the companies' board of directors and other officials to pay the 20-percent rate in addition to their profits. Some of them went away, while nearly 800 depositors insisted on picketing in front of the company's head office. [passage omitted]

Company Affairs Viewed

JN2207193288 Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic
18 Jul 88 pp 10, 11

[By 'Abd al-Qadir Shuhayb]

[Text] The question is no longer one of mere threats issued by investment companies to coerce the state to indulge them and meet their demands. Here are owners

of one of the companies acting on their threats and trying to induce other firms to do likewise. They have even gone so far as to pressure and extort whoever refused to go along with them and insisted on abiding by the law.

This company, the second largest of the investment firms, has actually begun liquidation proceedings, its proprietor having declared that he has no other option. This firm has actually suspended its operations except for a few, including restaurants. It has closed down its head office and its proprietors have vanished, having left their known homes. The company has closed down all of its gold stores, having hidden away their stocks. It has deliberately suspended trading in concrete steel reinforcement and fodder, and failed to make bank deposits to cover their accounts after their checks bounced. It has made half of its staff redundant and discontinued paying fees for advertisements placed in Egyptian and Arab newspapers and magazines that took it to court. Finally it gave out liquidation forms to depositors in which they pledge to accept refunds after 2 years during which they receive no interest or profit. The distribution of these forms is said to be a prelude to haggling with the depositors to give them back their deposits minus profits made over past months. At the same time, the proprietor and president of this firm are pressing fellow owners of investment companies to follow their example by liquidating and transferring their operations abroad. The two are trying to exploit their old friendships toward that end. Contacts and meetings among the proprietors of three of these companies have recently been more frequent. Between them the proprietors of the Al-Rayyan, Al-Sa'd, and Al-Huda establishments hold approximately one-half of the deposits collected by the investment companies, according to money market estimates.

It is something of a mystery that as these three firms hold contacts they make a point of keeping their residences a secret, especially from depositors, after they moved from their former homes. The contacts take place at a time when the three companies have shut down their head offices, leaving depositors in their thousands looking for a mere undertaking to refund them. This has raised doubts about the declared intention of the proprietors of the companies to bring their firms in line with the new law. Such statements may have been intended as virtual smoke bombs to cover withdrawal, especially given the persistence of the proprietor of the Al-Rayyan company!

The matter has even exceeded persistence and turned into some sort of threat by the proprietor of one of these companies against the proprietor of the Al-Sharif company, who frankly announced that he will continue his company's activities and investments in Egypt, especially since these are the largest investments by any financial investment company. This threat took the form of launching a propaganda campaign against the Al-Sharif company, exposing the real size of its activities outside Egypt and its financial speculations regarding

foreign currencies and the losses incurred by these speculations, as well as the collapse of the stock market and the assets it is keeping abroad.

These threats against the Al-Sharif company come at a time when the proprietors of most other investment companies think that they enjoy the state's nepotism and that they will therefore be exempted from the application of several clauses of the new investment law. They even believe that they will receive implicit backing so that they will continue to function. This conviction was explicitly expressed by the president of the Al-Rayyan company in a statement to a London-based Arabic newspaper.

All the assets and property possessed by these companies, and even their money in banks, can be sufficient to return to depositors only a meagre part of their money. The value of the assets of six companies—according to the evaluation of their owners as communicated to the money market authority a year ago—is slightly more than 191 million pounds. The value of their money in Egyptian banks may still be less than this figure, especially after their recent withdrawal from bank accounts to meet the depositors' demands to recover their money. In any case, their assets a year ago were not more than 126.2 million Egyptian pounds, \$31.7 million, and a few thousand Saudi riyals, German marks, French francs, and Kuwaiti dinars.

Naturally, these funds can be enough to repay only 3 percent of the depositors' money which the proprietors of these companies managed to collect. This percentage may be redoubled if we become optimistic and consider that the assets of these companies increased over a year as a result of inflation.

As for the money deposited in banks outside Egypt, only one company admitted this to the money market authority a year ago. It fixed these sums at about \$247 million, whereas the other companies denied keeping any deposits in banks outside Egypt.

Most of these companies have investments and activities abroad. We have thus far managed to list 10 of them in Geneva, Cyprus, Saudi Arabia, and even the United States. These activities include financial transactions, restaurants, transportation, petroleum, and some industries like those of paper, nails, cardboard, and food production.

Hence the temptation to flee abroad and escape the dilemma of repaying the funds to the depositors. That is why there have been numerous speculations on their preparations in this regard.

These speculations on escaping abroad do not even spare the proprietaries of the investment companies that declared that they are going to reorganize themselves and continue to work according to the new legislation.

Most of them will suffer major cash flow crises, which will escalate further when they will not be able to find new funds from the citizens, and because the depositors will insist on regaining their funds after the erosion of confidence in investment companies, especially since there is the possibility that some of the proprietaries of these companies will face jail sentences following the investigations made of them. They may also face jail because they issued uncovered cheques to depositors. One of these proprietaries had lately thought of fleeing so that a prison sentence against him could not be implemented. An opposition party leader advised him against escaping, lest his company collapse.

The depositors, who are very worried about these speculations, fear that some of the proprietaries of the investment companies may succeed in escaping abroad, especially since there are many proprietaries of smaller companies who were not included in the resolution banning travel abroad. In Egypt, there were over 180 companies depositing funds, while those prevented from travel abroad are only the proprietaries of the big companies.

Depositors are not assured that even those who are banned from traveling abroad will not be able to escape unless preventative measures are taken to stop them from doing so. Previously, former millionnaires have been able to escape despite the fact that they were banned from traveling. The last of those was Huda 'Abd al-Mun'im. People like this can sometimes get help from important figures, as was manifested in the case of the escape of Tawfiq 'Abd al-Hayy.

What worries depositors now is that some of the names mentioned in rumors as helping the escape of the millionaire who traded in spoiled chicken are being mentioned in the new speculations as having a role in the escape of at least two of the investment companies' proprietaries to outside Egypt.

Will the attempts of those to escape abroad succeed?

The security organs should answer this question. They should deny that these attempts to escape will succeed so that depositors do not collapse as was the case recently, with the money investment state.

Investment Projects Planned

JN2207162588 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
20 Jul 88 p 1

[Text] MENA has reported that the Investment Authority will hold a number of meetings after the 'Id al-Adha holiday with proprietaries of investment companies, which will reorganize themselves according to the new law.

Economic sources explained that the authority will present proprietaries of these companies with a number of investment projects, which can be established in the free zones. The sources said that the economic feasibility

of these projects have been prepared and are ready for implementation, such as export of ready-made clothes, meat canning and export, and canning of vegetables and foodstuffs.

Comparison of Mubarak 20 Jul Speech

Cairo AL-AHRAM on 21 July publishes on pages 3, 6, and 7 the approximately 10,000-word text of the speech President Muhammad Husni Mubarak delivered in Cairo on 20 July on the 36th anniversary of the 23 July revolution.

The AL-AHRAM version has been compared with the Cairo Domestic Service version published in the 21 July Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, pages 7-15, and found to be identical, except for the following:

Page 13, column one, paragraph four, last sentence should read ...hard to do because there are people with [low] salaries.

We import 400,000... (clearing indistinct words)

Column one, paragraph five, sentence four reads ...have to allocate 1.080 billion more pounds.... (changing "million" into "billion")

Same paragraph, penultimate sentence reads ...have to pay 1.080 billion pounds more... (changing "million" into "billion")

Libya

Italian Acceptance of U.S. F-16's Condemned

AU2307145388 Rome ANSA in English 1217 GMT
23 Jul 88

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, July 23—"Libya does not feel tranquil" after the Italian Government's decision to accept the American F-16 fighters which are being evicted from Spain, according to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi.

Interviewed by the weekly, EPOCA, on July 16, Al-Qadhafi said it was "a pity the Italian Government should bow its head so low before the American Government."

The government has made a big political error in accepting to host the planes," he commented. "I insist on the word, government, because neither the Italian nor the American peoples have any responsibility in it."

"It is a move which threatens and compromises peace in the Mediterranean, and we condemn the Italian Government for this."

Al-Qadhafi also charged that the downing of an Iranian airbus in the Gulf was "prepared and decided by the American Government."

"Iran?" he wondered to the journalist interviewing him. "It can certainly not be taken as an example in the Islamic world. The Iranian revolution is a nationalist one. The Libyan revolution, yes, that's Islamic."

The 79 American planes which must leave a base in central Spain within the next three years, will be hosted at a base in southern Italy.

Student Congress Condemns Arrest of 'Students'
LD2207152888 Tripoli JANA in English 1414 GMT
22 Jul 88

[Text] Tripoli, Nasser [July] 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—Great Al-Jamahiriyah General Congress of Students has released a statement on the new racial and aggressive action taken by the U.S. Administration against Libyan Arab students in the U.S.

The above congress has condemned this action as it reaffirms the falsification and lies circulated by this administration in alleging freedom and claiming to safeguard man's rights and international convention and traditions.

The statement says that this action is neither new nor will be the last in the history of this administration, for it has formerly issued a resolution prohibiting Libyan Arab students from pursuing studies in applied and theoretical sciences thereby proving itself to be a prejudiced administration. It aims at perpetuating ignorance and standing against freedom in a bid to enslave peoples through these unjust means.

The statement has reaffirmed that this racist action comes following the failure sustained by this administration in imposing economic sanctions against the Libyan Arab people and in its aggression against it, apart from its abortive attempts to stand in the face of the revolutionary and escalating tide whose centre being Great Al-Jamahiriyah.

The statement has called upon students worldwide to stand in solidarity with Great Al-Jamahiriyah to resist U.S. imperialism.

It adds that the U.S. Administration has concocted a plot aiming at liquidating the Arab nation and its future, pointing out that the actions taken by this administration against Libyan Arab students reflect the terrorist policy pursued by this administration.

The statement asserts that while condemning vigorously this aggressive behaviour, emphasis has to be placed that the continuation of struggle against imperialism must be underlined. It also calls upon all student and youth organizations earth wide to shoulder their responsibilities vis-a-vis the above action taken by the U.S. Administration.

Mention should be made that CIA elements and the so-called U.S. Federal Police stormed the office of Libyan Arab Student Committee and put under arrest these students. It is a repressive and unjust act displaying the decadent and base conduct of the U.S. Administration officials.

JANA Editor Denounces U.S. 'Fabrications'
LD2207180988 Tripoli JANA in English 1650 GMT
22 Jul 88

[Text] Tripoli, Nasser [July] 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—In completion [as received] for the racist act of aggression by the U.S. authorities against the Libyan Arab students in America, the U.S. Administration ordered some of its officials to reiterate fabricated accusations and spread false information to justify its uncivilised act of hatred.

The world affairs editor commented on it saying: "The U.S. Administration once more resorts to an undisguised game—an attempt to drag others into details and excuses previously prepared to cover-up the basic motives for its racist oppressive measure, it is:

First: The [word indistinct] of total hatred and hostility pursued by the U.S. Administration against the Great Al-Fatih Revolution and its humane progressive choices that are becoming a pioneer for the national and international liberation, an activator of Arab unitary action, an instigator and an initiator towards encircling the imperialist [word indistinct] action and foil its aims.

Second: The repeated attempt to distort the achievements accomplished over the land of Great Jamahiriyah with the victory of freedom and the confirmation of such victory by the publication of the grand Green Document on human rights in the era of the masses and what all that had caused in the form of spreadings that have begun to dominate various areas of the world.

Third: An attempt to distract the American and world public opinion away from the real problems the U.S. Administration is experiencing and which negative aspects had been reflected on the American society itself due to the chain of scandals and immoral crimes the current U.S. Administration had, and still is, drowned in and which was highlighted since the farce of election had hurled a failed actor into power and appointed him U.S. President...[ellipsis as received] The attempt looks undisguised already if we came to know that in the coming period trials—although show trials—will be held for U.S. officials involved in scandals of bribes, bargaining to sell arms—one of which is called "Irangate"—especially that the ruling party is drowned to its ears in such scandals and is getting ready now to play its role in the presidential election farce." [sentence and quotation mark as received]

The editor concluded by saying: "It is not the first time that the U.S. Administration had resorted to fabricate a campaign of misinformation and fabrications against Great Jamahiriya, for previously the American people itself exposed such campaigns and the bad reputation it had brought to its country and the discredibility of its officials.

"Regardless of excuses and justifications fabricated, and will be fabricated, by the U.S. Administration for its aggressive actions against the Libyan Arab people, the whole question lies in the contradiction between Great Jamahiriya—as an international liberation revolution that preaches of a new era in which man will be victorious as a value and that liberty become dominant with rightness and justice and then the signs of exploitation, slavery and domination will disappear for ever, and the U.S. Administration as a tyrannical phenomenon based upon a racist-expansionist doctrine that is built on exploitation and the smashing of human rights, to extent of annihilating others, to accomplish its goals that constitute a direct threat to civilisation and the future of mankind."

Briefs

Tunisian Health Protocol

Tripoli, Nasser [July] 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—"Hamouda ben Slama" the minister of state in the Public Health Ministry of sisterly Tunisia left Tripoli this morning at the end of a visit to Great Jamahiriya. During this visit signing took place on a protocol meeting on work teams assigned with technical cooperation in the health field between Great Jamahiriya and Tunisia. It stated that a joint corporation be established to run hospitals, integration in the field of health education, the creation of assisting medical cadres and bilateral cooperation to operate the new Tripoli hospital. Agreement was also reached on the setting of a joint committee from experts in the field of pharmacology to study and evaluate the medicine factory at "Al-Mayah" and the centre for checking quality and to assign "Bistir" [as received] Institute in Tunisia with extracting poisons and prepare needed vaccines from poisonous reptiles. [Text] [LD2307012488 Tripoli JANA in English 1700 GMT 22 Jul 88]

Sudan

USSR Reportedly Denies Supporting Rebels

JN2207152288 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Jul (SUNA)—The Soviet Union has denied the accusations of Defense Minister 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil in which he accused the Soviet Union of supporting the rebel movement.

The newspaper AL-USBU', which reported the denial in today's issue, quoted Soviet sources in Moscow. The sources said that the Soviet Union has no ambitions that may harm Sudanese-Soviet relations.

It should be recalled that in statements made before the Constituent Assembly, the defense minister affirmed that the Soviet Union is supporting and backing the rebel John Garang's movement.

Further on Visit of Ethiopian Foreign Minister

Informed of Return of Planes

JN2207152888 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1417 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Jul (SUNA)—Defense Minister General 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, retired, has conveyed to Ethiopian Foreign Minister Bayeh Berhanu the prime minister's decision to return three Ethiopian airplanes, two of which are civilian and one is military, in which Ethiopian pilots had defected to Sudan. The decision was taken as a demonstration of good will and to reach relations that affirm good neighborliness. This will achieve permanent peace in the region and provide the opportunity for development of the two fraternal countries.

The defense minister received the Ethiopian foreign minister yesterday, the day he arrived on a short visit to the country. In news statements, Hamid said that the meeting covered all subjects relating to relations between the two countries, and was held to restore circumstances to normality and to activate direct contact to contain any development that may disturb relations between the two fraternal countries.

The Ethiopian minister had earlier handed a message to Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi from the Ethiopian president. The message dealt with bilateral relations and means to improve them.

Protests Plane Downing

JN2307105988 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Jul (SUNA)—The Ethiopian foreign minister, who arrived in the country Thursday, informed the Sudanese Government of his country's official protest over the downing by the Sudanese Armed Forces of the military plane that was providing military supplies to rebels in a camp on the Sudanese-Ethiopian border. The Ethiopian minister claimed that the plane, which was downed by Sudanese anti-aircraft guns, belonged to the Ethiopian regime, not to the rebels.

State officials, however, told the Ethiopian foreign minister that the pilot tried to drop supplies to the rebels in the camp near Nasir on the Sudanese-Ethiopian border. When the plane was hit, its pilot, who was immediately killed, was identified as a member of the rebels. The

independent newspaper AL-SIYASAH, published here today, has learned that the visit of the Ethiopian minister, who conferred with Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, is intended to deal with this situation and to reduce tensions that arise every now and then.

Al-Mahdi Makes Address Marking 'Id al-Adha

On Gulf, Airbus Downing

JN2407191088 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Jul (SUNA)—Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has voiced his happiness over Iran's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for terminating the Iraq-Iran war.

In a speech to the Sudanese nation marking 'Id al-Adha delivered this morning, Al-Mahdi said: We were very pleased with the fruition of the Islamic, Arab, and international efforts exerted to end the Gulf war. He congratulated both Iraq and Iran on their favorable response to the call for ending the war and added that Sudan will work to build bridges of understanding and accord between the Sunnites and Shi'ites on the one hand and also between the Arabs and the Iranians on the other. He went on to say: Sudan also calls upon all parties to work toward ending the effects of the war and toward urging the parties to the conflict to resolve all problems through peaceful means.

On the other hand, Al-Mahdi expressed his regret over the downing of the civilian Iranian plane in the Gulf and said: We condemn this action, appreciate the U.S. admission that a mistake was responsible for bringing it down, and demand that it offer sufficient and adequate compensation and apologize for this grave mistake. He added that the stage has been set now for withdrawing the war fleets from the Gulf, for preparing for a peaceful life in the region, and for the establishment of peace between the neighbors and the brothers in the Gulf.

On 'Pillars' of Government

JN2407180288 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, July 24, SUNA—The government's program for the current stage is based on six pillars atop them the rehabilitation of the Armed Forces, and the enforcement of security for containing aggression against the country in the south, Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi said.

Addressing the nation today on the occasion of the Sacrifice Bayram, Al-Mahdi referred to the second pillar which is represented in the prevailing of peace and solving the country's major problems through democratic ways.

In this regard Al-Mahdi said a peace initiative was drawn including the preparation for the constitutional conference, and a committee to be set up for the following up the peace initiative.

Citing the economic development as the third pillar Al-Mahdi referred to the four-year term rescue program and the establishment of the National Council for Economic Planning.

On the abolition of Numayri's Islamic laws and the issuing of alternative laws which he cited as the fourth pillar Al-Mahdi pointed that the government is currently discussing the substituted laws which he said are guaranteeing the rights of citizenship of Muslims and non-Muslims.

The fifth pillar he said is represented in how manipulating [as received] the limited resources of the country.

On the foreign policy which he considered as the six pillar of the government's program Al-Mahdi said it is based on non-alignment and goodneighbouring.

Assails Unnamed 'Elements'

JN2407181588 Khartoum SUNA in English 1738 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, July 24, SUNA—Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has bitterly lashed out at the elements "he didn't name" he said were plotting to exploit the current economic crisis for realizing illegal political goals.

In his address to the nation today Al-Mahdi depicted other elements as "fifth column" and said they were trying to give legitimacy to the attitudes of the rebel movement in the Sudanese political forum.

Al-Mahdi called for the unification of the government and the people in the face of those elements whom he said are working to drag the country into ethnic and religious sedition.

Statement on Iraqi Opposition Leader's Death

JN2207124688 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1040 GMT
22 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Jul (SUNA)—The Council of Ministers has issued a statement on the case involving the assassination of the Iraqi Shi'ite opposition leader Mahdi al-Hakim who was killed in Khartoum last January when he came to attend the National Islamic Front's [NIF] second congress. The following is text of the Council's statement:

Earlier this year NIF invited several Islamic organizations to attend its second congress. Those invited included the chief editor of the magazine AL-ALIM who requested that the invitation be addressed instead to Mahdi al-Hakim, and he insisted on that. The NIF declined to receive the late Mahdi al-Hakim due to the

lack of sufficient time and security arrangements for his personal safety. This apology was conveyed to the chief editor of the magazine. In the meantime, however, these security considerations did not prevent Al-Hakim from coming to Khartoum. A front member facilitated the deceased's journey to Khartoum through the Sudanese Embassy in London.

Mahdi al-Hakim arrived in Sudan on Friday on January 15, 1988 accompanied by his relative Dr 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Hakim and stayed at the Hilton Hotel. But they were neither received nor hosted by the front. They also did not attend the congress. However, contacts took place between them and the front's representatives, including a meeting with the front's secretary general at his residence on the evening of 17 January. They returned to the hotel at 2035, where they called at the reception desk. And, when they were about to leave the lobby, they were confronted by two men. One of them shot Al-Hakim in the back with a pistol. He also fired other shots wounding 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Hakim. The gunmen escaped in the cars waiting for them outside, a white Toyota Corolla with a diplomatic license plate and a Mercedes. The hotel lobby was teeming with guests of the NIF congress and the conference of Arab agricultural ministers. There were only two security men at the hotel who were unarmed. There was also one police car outside which was unable to chase the deserting criminals.

Following this regrettable incident, investigations were conducted. The concerned parties were notified and an investigation committee was formed by the police and security authorities on orders of the public prosecutor who personally took charge of the investigations. Field teams were also formed to help the investigation committee.

The investigation included the interrogation of eyewitnesses among the hotel guests and visitors. It transpired from the investigation that the car involved belonged to the Iraqi Embassy. The eyewitnesses who saw the criminal gave him the same description as that of a certain diplomat at the Iraqi Embassy.

In view of this suspicion, the public prosecutor addressed a letter to the Iraqi minister of justice on January 13, 1988 requesting him to lift the immunity on the diplomat concerned so he could be interrogated. The Iraqi minister sent a reply on February 23, 1988 in which he protested this suspicion and rejected the request to lift the immunity on the diplomat, basing his argument on Articles 29, 31, and 32 of the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations.

Thus, the investigation ended in deadlock due to the failure to interrogate the suspect owing to his diplomatic immunity, and especially since the suspect also left the country for good while the government was tackling the matter diplomatically.

The Sudanese Government will not level an accusation based on suspicions whose veracity and implications cannot be established for reasons beyond its control. The government hopes the incident will not affect the good relations with fraternal Iraq. The government is only issuing this statement to remove any suspicion regarding its concern for the process of justice and Sudan's territorial integrity and security.

The Sudanese Government would like to express its profound regret that its territory was used as the scene for a despicable political crime and regrets that a personality like Mahdi al-Hakim met his death while visiting Sudan.

Report Details Status of Nation's Debts

JN2407185688 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Jul (SUNA)—Sudan's debts to the member states of the Paris Club amounted to \$2.165 billion as of the beginning of last year. A report recently prepared by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning on Sudan's debts says that the repayment of \$1.451 billion of this amount has been rescheduled.

The report indicates that the United States tops the list of Sudan's creditor nations, as its debts for this period amount to \$548 million. Britain comes next, with \$311 million owed by Sudan. Then comes France, with \$245 million, and Italy, with \$206 million. And lastly comes Sweden, to which Sudan owes \$2 million.

The report points out that the rescheduling of the repayment of the \$1.451 billion amount was the consummation of various phases through four agreements signed with the Paris Club, which comprises the member states of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. The first agreement was signed in November 1979, while the last one was signed in May 1984. The report also indicates that the amounts whose repayment was rescheduled do not include \$221 million which is the interest on the amounts that have not been repaid.

The report adds that the debts of foreign exporters during the period extending from the 1970's to January 1987 amounted to \$224 million. The report indicates that local currency covering a large part of these debts is available at the Central Bank and that part of this money has been transferred abroad through various means.

Oman

Defense Minister Outlines Modernization Plans *PM2207113288 Muscat OMAN DAILY OBSERVER* *in English 19 Jul 88 p 3*

[Unattributed report on interview granted by Minister of State for Defense Affairs al-Mu'tasim ibn Hamud Al Bu Sa'id to Muscat daily 'UMAN; place, date not given]

[Text] Rigorous training and meticulous planning over the years have transformed the Sultan's Armed Forces [SAF] into one of the most efficient armies in the region. Minister of State for Defence Affairs al-Mu'tasim Ibn Hamud Al Bu Sa'id has said.

He said: "The process of modernisation initiated by His Majesty Sultan Qabus, supreme commander of the Armed Forces, in the backdrop of the unique Omani environment—the rugged mountains, vast deserts and harsh climatic conditions—coupled with the availability of the most modern weapons have made our Armed Forces one of the best in the region."

A new drive to modernise the SAF to cater for present and future needs, Al-Mu'tasim revealed in an interview with the OBSERVER's sister daily in Arabic 'UMAN, has been launched following a comprehensive review of the immense potential of the country's Armed Forces.

"As part of the plan, we are in the process of re-organising the Defence Ministry's constitutional framework according to a recent royal decree effecting new appointments at different levels in the SAF," he added.

His majesty's directives, he said, stressed the importance of Omanising SAF cadres "no matter how high or low the positions might be."

Al-Mu'tasim observed that his majesty was not for Omanisation in a hurry. HM the Sultan wanted Omanis to take up positions with the Army only after they had been perfectly qualified through intensive training and after acquiring the necessary experience, he added.

He noted that a number of young Omani commanders had already joined the SAF after receiving thorough training. "Several others are being trained at our military training centres."

Officers were also regularly trained abroad in friendly countries to fill civil, technical and administrative positions on their return.

In reply to a question, Al-Mu'tasim said in the field of training pilots the accent was on quality and not on quantity.

"Ten well-trained pilots are always better than 50 of mediocre training," he pointed out.

One of the functions of the Sultan Qabus Air Force Training College, he said, was to train Omani pilots.

"We already have several young Omani pilots. More are under training."

The number of recruits to the SAF, the minister said, doubled and redoubled during the past 18 years with the result that it was quite easy to choose the best. "Our men face no difficulty in handling sophisticated weapons," he added.

Answering another question, he said geographically Oman occupied an important position with its 1,700-kilometre coast.

"Our ancestors realised the importance of this position and developed a strong naval force enabling the country to extend its power to East Africa and establish friendship with many countries."

The Sultanate, Al-Mu'tasim said, had continued to play its traditional role although the means now were different.

"Fully respecting the international principle of non-interference in others' internal affairs, the Sultanate still maintains a modern army to defend its people," he said.

He also said that the SAF gave top priority to manpower training and development. "Educationally qualified men understand better how to deal with modern equipment and weapons," he pointed out.

He said all the training establishments of the SAF including the Sultan Qabus Military College, the Sultan Qabus Air Force Training College and the Naval Training Centre always kept pace with the latest military science technology.

Al-Mu'tasim said the Royal Guard of Oman [RGO] was an essential component of the SAF and underwent the same type of continuous modernisation.

He added although the RGO had distinguished and specific duties, it was lending a strong support to the SAF. Joint manoeuvres between the RGO and SAF units had clearly demonstrated the efficiency of the former.

Speaking about choice of arms, Mu'tasim said it was a "sophisticated and difficult job" based on three factors.

The first was the choice of the most suitable arms; the second the availability of financial resources to buy the ones found suitable and the third was the facilities offered by the manufacturing country.

Al-Mu'tasim emphasised the significance of frequent exercises and manoeuvres which, he said, were the means by which the efficiency and alertness of an army be assessed.

Besides carrying out exercises on their own regularly, the SAF units also took part in joint manoeuvres with the armed forces of friendly countries, he added.

He said: "Our joint exercises with the GCC Armed Forces and those of other countries with more experience and expertise have proved the combat efficiency of the Omani soldiers."

In reply on a question, Al-Mu'tasim said following his majesty's directives, Oman gave great importance to the stability and security of the region for the sake of safety of all states in the area on equal terms with them in order to reinforce the principles of international peace.

Oman's policy in this regard, he added, was based on respect for internal policies of every country so that "each country has the right to take action suitable for its interests within its regional borders.

"I would like to confirm that the Sultanate's relations with its neighbours are marked by co-operation, respect, mutual trust and good neighbourliness."

Once again talking about the SAF, he said it also contributed to the country's development in several ways. They provided assistance to the civil authorities in the construction of roads in the mountains and in transporting food supplies and medical help to people in inaccessible areas.

"One hand defends, the other builds," was the guiding force behind the SAF, Al-Mu'tasim said.

He added the joint GCC military strategy was going ahead well, the proof of which were the periodical military exercises conducted together by the armies of the six members states.

Saudi Arabia

Tehran Reports Pilgrim Demonstration in Mecca
LD2207172988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] On the anniversary of the killing of God's pilgrims in honorable Mecca at the hand of the Al-Sa'ud, hundreds of pilgrims of different nationalities demonstrated today in honorable Mecca. We begin the hour's foreign news with a report.

On the anniversary of the brutal killing of the pilgrims of the holy sanctuary at the hand of Al-Sa'ud and on the direct orders of the United States, hundreds of Arab, Turk, Afghan, Pakistani, and American pilgrims demonstrated in Mecca today and participated in a march chanting slogans of "God is great," [words indistinct], "Death to the United States," "Death to Zionism," and "Death to the Soviet Union" and carrying placards

condemning the Al-Sa'ud regime for killing over 400 pilgrims of the holy sanctuary last year in Mecca and also condemning their Zionist and American supporters.

According to reports, the Saudi regime's policy ("which became extremely terrified) subjected the demonstrators to severe restrictions and surrounded them. In some sections, it attacked the ranks of the marchers, but as a result of the marchers' vigilance ("there were no clashes).

After the march, the demonstrators gathered in front of the Ka'bah and [words indistinct] chanting the slogan and unity. They asked all the Muslims of the world to join voices and condemn the (relentless) crimes of Al-Sa'ud, the United States, and their allies [passage indistinct]

'Source' Denies Tehran Reports of Demonstration
LD2307001888 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2330 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Mecca, 22 Jul (SPA)—A responsible source has made a statement to SPA:

REUTER news agency carried a report this evening from Nicosia citing Tehran radio saying that hundreds of pilgrims had staged a demonstration outside the Ka'bah against specific countries. Tehran radio said that among the demonstrators were Arabs, Turks, Pakistanis, Afghans, and Americans and that the Saudi police threw a cordon around the demonstrators.

The source added: This report, like its predecessor, is totally fabricated and has no basis in truth whatsoever. It is another link in the chain of lies and fabrications which Iran spreads for sensationalism, agitation, and turning the facts upside down. The untruth of this report was confirmed by the correspondents of all the Arab and foreign radios and news agencies who are in Mecca and the holy places.

The source ended his statement saying that all the pilgrims are performing their religious duties in a calm atmosphere and are enjoying security and tranquility, thanks be to God.

Fahd Regrets Absence of Iranian Pilgrims
LD2507140188 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0915 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Mina, 25 Jul (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd 'Abd al-Aziz, held a reception today at the Royal Palace in Mina for Islamic personalities performing the pilgrimage, heads of pilgrimage missions, pilgrim guests of the Kingdom, and ambassadors of Arab and Islamic countries.

The most prominent guests at the reception were Bangladeshi President Hussain Mohammad Ershad; Mali President Moussa Traore; Gambian President Dawda Jawara; Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal; Tanzanian Vice President Idris Abdul Wakil; and Sudanese State Council member Mirghani Nasiri. [passage omitted]

At the end of the reception, the custodian of the two holy mosques made a speech welcoming the Islamic leaders to this secure, stable country, wishing them a good stay, and congratulating them on completing their pilgrimage.

[passage omitted] I am the first person to be sorry for any incident by any Islamic country in this sacred place. However, what happened, happened. Praise be to God reason and wisdom prevailed, and the situation was put into perspective.

I am sorry not to have seen any pilgrims from Iran participating with their brother Muslims in these sacred places in the pilgrimage rites. It is well known that Saudi Arabia announced that it welcomes the Muslim Iranian people to the country of Islam, but certain circumstances have obstructed this. These circumstances did not stem from Saudi Arabia, but from the responsible authorities in Iran. This is their affair, and Saudi Arabia cannot interfere. It is hoped that Muslims will close their ranks in one group. [passage omitted]

Passport Office Cites Data on Hajj Pilgrims
LD2207163188 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1430 GMT 22 Jul 88

[All numbers as received]

[Excerpt] Mecca, 22 Jul (SPA)—Major General Fahd ibn Muhammad al-Sharif, director general of the Passports Office, has announced that the number of pilgrims coming from abroad to perform the hajj (pilgrimage) rites this year has reached 752,755. Of this number 452,924, that is, 59 percent are male, and 309,831, that is, 41 percent are female.

Their entry into the Kingdom was as follows:

- By air: 515,955 pilgrims.
- By road: 204,348 pilgrims.
- By sea: 42,452 pilgrims.

This information was contained in a message sent to His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibd 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of the interior and chairman of the Higher Committee for Pilgrims, by the director general of the Passports Office. [passage omitted]

Iran-Iraq Cease-Fire Moves Found 'Heartening'
PM2207113088 Jeddah SAUDI GAZETTE in English 19 Jul 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Towards Peace?"]

[Text] Iran has finally realised the futility of war with Iraq, or is it just another gimmick to check the recent Iraqi advances into the Iranian territory? Tehran, according to the official Iranian news agency, has accepted the UN

cease-fire Resolution 598. A brief announcement followed Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's newest peace offer he made one day before the Iranian decision.

Perhaps, Tehran has found positive elements in Saddam's five-point proposal. If that is the case, Iran's decision to accept a ceasefire will be greeted with a sigh of relief, not only in the region but inside Iran itself. Half of Tehran's population has fled to the countryside as a result of the "war of cities" earlier this year. The country's economy is shattered. The Army's morale is low and it is becoming harder to find new recruits or volunteers.

All this could be one major reason for Iran to finally agree to a ceasefire. This could be an offer from a moderate like 'Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani who took over as the new military chief on June 2. However, this factor also raises doubt about the real intentions of Iran. Even if the offer is made out of sincerity, there is every possibility that the hardliners may blast it from within. Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi has already condemned efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the war. And Mohtashemi is not alone in the Iranian political set-up who opposes peace.

This leads to the possibility of a work-up between the moderates and hardliners to seek breathing space following Iraqi victories since early this year. The Iranians may violate the ceasefire like the Lebanese who are universally famous now for breaking any ceasefire even without provocation. Iran may draw a "lesson" from there and launch an attack on Iraq once the latter withdraws its troops to the international borders under the ceasefire agreement. As is well-known, the United Nations prefers to be a silent spectator in such situations and is not expected to do anything if Iran violates ceasefire agreement. That will create a more disastrous situation.

The Iranian statement suggests that there could be some ulterior motives behind the Tehran proposal. It refers to the "new conditions", "sacred defence" of the Iranian revolution and "plots" against it. But then a ceasefire is more in the interest of Iran. Although no correct figures are available, the almost eight-year-old war has taken the lives of an estimated one million people for no honourable reason, because Iran rejected every offer for peace and negotiated settlement of all outstanding disputes between the two countries. Further loss of lives as well as properties—industries, oil installations and cities, not to mention non-belligerent ships—can be saved if Tehran is really interested in ending the war and start talks.

Apart from questions about Iran's sincerity, one major cause of the continuation of this tragic conflict is the active interest and involvement of forces and powers that want to keep this region in turmoil. Despite their lip service to peace, they have been pouring oil on the flames of war, and they would like that ceasefire fail. Still, it is heartening that for the first time in eight years both Iraq and Iran now agree to peace and negotiate an honourable and just settlement acceptable to the two countries.

Khomeyni's 'Lies' on Mecca Incidents Criticized
JN2307204888 Al-Dammam AL-YAWM in Arabic
22 Jul 88 p 1

[Editorial: "The Iranian Rancor"]

[Text] Khomeyni's government in Iran is acting haphazardly following its total collapse on all levels. Despite this collapse, it claims that it can remain steadfast and resist the current events it is facing. In order to prove that it can be steadfast, it has adopted an exposed way to persuade itself and its people that it is still a strong government and can face the events. This way Khomeyni has adopted since he assumed power in Tehran is largely responsible for this total collapse on all levels in Iran.

Khomeyni is using lies as an effective way to confront everything that he cannot confront in other ways, and lies have become the best way for Khomeyni and his clique to remain in power. Khomeyni's government continued to lie until it believed these lies. This led to a total collapse.

Khomeyni can lie to the Iranian people that victories and glory were achieved for them, but he cannot deceive the whole world with these lies.

Khomeyni and his clique showed their deep-rooted grudge and what they want to happen in the holy place—God forbid—when they tried to convince the world that demonstrations took place in Mecca. They foolishly thought the world would believe them. They forgot or ignored the fact that millions of pilgrims have come to Mecca from all over the world, that they are in constant touch with their families everywhere, that they tell their families of the Kingdom's great services to them, and that they are the best witnesses to the lies of Khomeyni and his clique that demonstrations took place in holy Mecca.

The question is: What does Khomeyni want to achieve through these lies? Does he want to persuade the Iranian people that he is still capable of carrying out such demagogic actions, which have been denounced by the whole world, or does he want to lie to himself or persuade himself that he can still concoct plots against many countries?

In both cases, Khomeyni's lies are exposed. He cannot persuade the Iranian people he is a ruler capable of doing everything or even persuade himself of that. The successive blows his regime has received have made him lose his mind and his ability to move. As a result, he has become paralyzed and cannot express himself without his evil intentions.

The Kingdom, which has taken all security measures to deter anyone who tries to stage a demonstration, will not talk about such a demonstration in Mecca because it has the ability to deter any such demonstration. It also has the ability to tell the truth and tell the whole world what

takes place in holy Mecca. The Tehran regime is so foolish that it cannot believe that the Kingdom can tell the truth because Khomeyni and his clique used to lie.

Yemen Arab Republic

President Speaks on Achievements, Yemeni Unity
JN2307162888 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 23 Jul 88

["Text" of speech by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha; read by announcer]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Brother citizens: Our people's joy for the 'Id al-Adha comes to increase their lively joys and great happiness, which they reaped as a blessed fruit of their consistent revolutionary struggle to lay the foundation to consultation values, and to crown the democratic march with the dearest popular and national gains by the establishment of the legislature and the election of the Consultative Council. These, together with all organs of the leadership, represent the spirit of one team and the method of collective leadership, which works for the supreme national interest and which proceeds from the principles and objectives of the eternal September revolution, the provisions of the Standing Constitution, and clauses of the National Charter. This it does to strengthen national unity and the supremacy of the principles of law, to continue the comprehensive civilized development of society, and to achieve all of our people's aspirations in development and unity.

Brother citizens, with this democratic, consultative, and progressive achievement, our people have achieved one of the revolution's objectives. The people erected a fence that will protect them from the dangers of an individual tyrannical theocratic role. By so doing, our people have laid the foundation for a just, consultative, constitutional, and republican form of government that will represent the people's will and that is based on their free choice.

The successes achieved will only increase our people's persistence in building the unifying, cooperative, and democratic Yemeni future, which will be more prosperous, progressive, and just. This calls for more efforts to achieve our Yemeni people's aspiration in unity on a peaceful and democratic basis in cooperation with our brothers in the southern part of our homeland. This we will do in abiding by and implementing the unity accords between the two parts of manifest national aspirations of all masses of the people, who have the greatest interest in unity.

Striving for a future full of achievements and contribution requires more of the people's awareness, more of strengthening their revolutionary spirit, and more of intensifying their fruitful and creative efforts in all fields of work, contribution, and sacrifice so that popular participation on the path of democracy, development, and Yemeni unity remains the practical manifestation of all national responsibilities in all fields. [passage omitted]

Saddam Returns From II Army Corps Sector Battle
JN2207153888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1510 GMT
22 Jul 88

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jul (INA)—His Excellency President and Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, returned to Baghdad this afternoon after he commanded the "Wa Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah IV" operations from the field. These operations were crowned with the victory of Iraqi will and with the defeat of the tyrannical Khomeyniite forces. The battle was fought by the heroic Presidential Guard Corps and the II Army Corps as well as the units and forces attached to them.

In this battle, our combatants performed a new heroic feat and added it to the immortal feats of heroism inscribed in the book of the second Al-Qadisiyah battle—the Al-Qadisiyah of Saddam of the Arabs. In this battle, our combatants inflicted grave losses on the invading aggressors and captured thousands of prisoners of war. Also, the combatants of this battle liberated our sacred national soil from the filth of the invading aggressors in the heroic II Army Corps sector.

His excellency the president held several meetings and audiences with the field commanders. These meetings and audiences were crowned with the victory of our valiant Armed Forces.

The meetings and audiences were attended by Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister; Brigadier General Husayn Kamil, industry and military industrialization minister; and members of the Armed Forces General Command.

'Aziz Warns Iran Against Tampering With 598
JN2207184088 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1801 GMT
22 Jul 88

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jul (INA)—Iraq strongly warned the Iranian regime today against tampering again with the sequential implementation of the paragraphs of UN Security Council Resolution 598.

In an exclusive statement to INA tonight, Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said, "The Iranian regime must carefully understand that the statements made by its officials a few days ago regarding its acceptance of the sequential implementation of the said resolution created better possibilities for the establishment of peace. It must also understand that its backing down on this stand will have dire consequences that will bring to the Iranian regime nothing other than further losses."

The statement by Tariq 'Aziz came in response to the letter sent to the UN secretary general by the Iranian regime's foreign minister on 20 July in which he repeated the regime's previous stands on tampering with the method of implementing Resolution 598.

The foreign minister added, "The message sent by the Iranian foreign minister confirms the inconstant stands of the Iranian regime and confirms that this regime has an inclination to change and modify its stands in accordance with imaginary variables." He indicated that "such a twisted course will not help attain peace."

Concluding his statement, Tariq 'Aziz said, "We reiterate once again that the implementation of the resolution in accordance with the sequence of its operative paragraphs is the only guarantee for preventing this tampering and also for preventing the torpedoing of the peace process by the Iranian regime."

To Discuss Implementation
JN2207194888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1906 GMT
22 Jul 88

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Jul (INA)—A Foreign Ministry spokesman said tonight: In response to the invitation issued by the UN secretary general today, Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister, has been named as the Iraqi Government's authorized representative to go to New York to discuss how to implement Resolution 598.

In a statement to INA tonight, the spokesman said: While demonstrating our readiness to have the foreign minister travel to UN headquarters, we reaffirm our proposal, contained in the foreign minister's letter of 20 July 1988, to hold direct talks with an authorized representative of the Iranian side under the auspices of the UN secretary general, not to mention other proposals contained in the letter.

The Foreign Ministry's official spokesman added "that this negotiation formula is the practical and natural formula to begin implementing Resolution 598 on a clear basis agreed to by both sides." He indicated "that the stand toward this formula reveals Iran's real intentions regarding the entire peace issue."

Concluding, the spokesman said: At the same time, Iraq agrees to receive the UN technical team formed by the UN secretary general. It agrees to discuss with the competent authorities of this team measures to implement the cease-fire order provided for in UN Security Council Resolution 598 after this team completes its mission in Iran and with the understanding that this team will be a technical one which will discuss technical issues with competent Iraqi authorities.

This is also based on the understanding that issues that have a political nature—such as fixing dates for the implementation of the paragraphs of the resolution, explaining and delineating their content, the consequent

obligations to be met by the two sides thereby, including the date the cease-fire is to take effect—will be discussed with the authorized Iraqi representative. This is also based on the understanding that the fixing of dates will only be made within the framework of the negotiations proposed by us and that this will be subject to the approval of competent Iraqi authorities.

Information Minister Denies Territorial Ambitions

*JN2307111788 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1104 GMT
23 Jul 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jul (INA)—Iraq has reiterated that it does not covet Iranian territory. This reiteration came in a statement today by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim, who said that Iran pursues an aggressive policy against Iraq. He added that the liberation of Iraqi territory occupied by Iran is Iraq's objective, and it therefore has no covetousness or premeditated intentions. He urged Iran to take swift steps to implement Resolution No 598 and to achieve a comprehensive peace with Iraq.

Makes Statement on War

*JN2307145688 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1415 GMT 23 Jul 88*

[Statement by Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim on 23 July; read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The Iranians are trying to conceal their weakness and the disasters they have created for the Iranian people and the Iranian Armed Forces as a result of their aggressive and expansionist policies as well as their rejection of peace efforts over the past 8 years. We say that the Iranian officials are trying to cover all this by making statements that Iraq covets Iranian territories. Consequently, they call on Iranians to volunteer in order to repulse the Iraqi forces.

We affirm to the Iranian people, the Iranian Armed Forces, and the entire world that we have no ambitions in any part of Iranian territory, that it is the Iranian rulers who covet our territory, and that it is they who adopt the theory of expansion and aggression. The Iranian people and the Iranian Army know this reality. The strongest evidence of their ambitions is our recent experiences with them—experiences which are well known. In addition, they occupied part of our territory and they resisted our forces when we decided to liberate our territory.

We also affirm that the objectives of all our previous and forthcoming military operations are confined to the objectives stated in General Command Communique No 3,269 issued yesterday. The communique stresses that the aim is to liberate our territories and capture as many of the Iranian forces as we can to facilitate the

achievement of a complete and comprehensive peace. This peace must be free of the tricks and treachery of the Iranian officials, who still reject direct negotiation, which has no alternative for those who want real peace with us and with the Arabs.

Any penetration into Iranian territory during military operations to achieve their goals will be temporary and will not mean any premeditated intentions against the Iranian people and their territory.

The rulers of Iran are required to take speedy steps to implement Security Council Resolution No 598 and establish a lasting and comprehensive peace if they are sincere in turning toward peace.

It is most important that a decision be made on holding direct negotiations between the representatives of the two countries under UN auspices in order to expedite the steps toward peace and implement the Security Council resolution, and that includes—as part of the peace process agreed upon—a cease-fire between Iran and Iraq.

It is natural that initial negotiations are accompanied by a measure of self-restraint when the two sides sense the sincere intentions toward peace and the serious efforts to achieve peace. We want to achieve a genuine and lasting peace between the two countries as soon as possible. The Iranian people must pressure their rulers to take practical steps toward the achievement of such an objective and should not remain captive of maneuvers and a verbal approach to Resolution 598.

Velayati's message to the UN secretary general and his manipulation of the sequence of the clauses of Resolution 598 and his rejection of a direct meeting and negotiations with the representatives of Iraq—in addition to the Iranian officials' record of maneuvering, intransigence, and obduracy—leave no room for words and verbal expressions as a substitute for action and a documented commitment to peace by the two countries.

Spokesman on Withdrawal From Iranian Territory

*JN2407110488 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1010 GMT 24 Jul 88*

[Statement issued by a military spokesman dated 24 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In all our communiques on the Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah-IV operations, we have announced that our units will return to the positions on our national soil from which they launched their operations both in accordance with our declared policy and a specific timetable for every case. This will be carried out in a manner that will not harm our defenses and the military objectives explicitly stated in the Armed Forces General Command Communique No 3,269 on 22 July.

All this demonstrates that we have no designs against Iranian territory. In implementation of this policy, the heroic III Army Corps units have completed their withdrawal to the positions from which they advanced between 2100 [1700 GMT] on 23 July 1988 and 0300 at dawn today, 24 July 1988. However, what makes one laugh is that the Iranian enemy announced at 1205 and 1330 today that its forces liberated the territories toward which the III Army Corps had advanced in accordance with operational requirements and from which they have withdrawn as mentioned in previous statements and in this statement.

Those who make such statements know very well that nothing except the principles in which we believe and the policy stemming from them prevents our units on all fronts from reaching areas that are far deeper than those they have already reached or from areas from which they have withdrawn in the Tawakkalna 'Ala 'Allah-III operations.

To clarify matters to all parties concerned, particularly to the Iranian people who are afflicted with their lying rulers, we say that it is not part of our policy to penetrate deeper into Iran in all the sectors of operations to give good men the chance to establish real and actual peace. The penetrations we have carried out so far in accordance with the military requirements for liberating the land are temporary penetrations, and we will withdraw to the positions from which our forces had advanced as we have withdrawn in the past.

We hope that no one among the Iranian people will believe the lies, communiques, and statements of their rulers. They are expected to lie to you when our forces withdraw from other areas. They will tell you the same thing that they told you today when they announced the liberation of Iranian territory through fighting in the heroic III Army Corps sector. The truth is that our forces had withdrawn under the orders of the political leadership as we have already stated. God is great. Let the lowly be accursed.

[Dated] 24 July 1988

Reportage on Gulf War Combat Activities

Communique No 3,269

JN2207145088 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1321 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Communique No 3,269 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

O great Iraqi people. O brave men of our valiant Armed Forces. O sons of our glorious Arab nation. As Arabs, in recent bitter lessons from our enemies, caution against

enemy tricks was not as it should have been and preparation for confronting them was not as it should have been when confrontation became the only path. The Arabs lost a great deal when they neglected sound caution and preparation for the requirements of confrontation, especially in the fight against Zionism since 1948. And because among the most basic requirements of grasping lessons is avoiding the repetition of past errors, Iraq and its men have benefited from those lessons. Iraq's experience is unique in its peculiarity, as you know.

The enemies of the nation played a wicked role when they occupied Arab land, which they either used as a means of extortion and pressure to achieve illegitimate gains or, in most cases, kept and annexed to their land to place before the Arabs a bitter fait accompli. This has been our fate as Arabs as a result of our battles with Zionism since the 1948 war. This has also been the case with Iraq before the revolution in its experience with Iran, which always expanded at the expense of Iraq and violated agreements in accordance with its plans of expansion.

On the basis of this experience and in accordance with the uniqueness of the Iraqi men and their well-known national zeal at this stage, we pledged to ourselves not to leave any part of our land in the hands of the enemy, which would enable him to repeat the bitter experience, like the one we have mentioned. This is in addition to moral, psychological, and historical considerations.

Because the war with Iran is still continuing, because one of the most important approaches to peace lies in removing from the minds of Iranian rulers their illusions about blackmailing the Arab nation and Iraq and bargaining over their principles and national dignity and the principles of pan-Arab security, and because land and prisoners take priority, we relied on God for the fourth time and mounted the Wa Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah-IV operations. These operations covered an entire front. Heroic activities of various magnitude, expansion, and types were carried out at various depths.

However, these operations were all aimed at wrenching the national soil that is still in the hands of the invading enemy, crushing its force, and capturing the largest possible number of enemy prisoners in order to balance them against our prisoners in order to secure the safe return of our prisoners to their families as soon as possible.

The basic thrust in the Wa Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah IV this time was in the heroic II Army Corps sector and extended along a 170-km front. The Presidential Guard Forces, men with difficult tasks, fought side by side with the men of the II Army Corps and the Armed Forces men who came from other corps to liberate their national soil in the (Sanuba) traverse and part of their occupied

territory in Sayf Sa'd. They were all racing to reach the peak of new glory. Each of them played his role according to the plan and to objectives outlined therein.

God has aided us against our enemies and the territory was liberated. Their forces were crushed and thousands of others for whom God has written a new life under the Iraqis fell in captivity. Huge quantities of equipment and weapons were seized. God be praised for His clear victory.

We would like to say to Iranian rulers that throughout the 8 years of legendary steadfastness displayed by our people and through our people's strength which was God's tool for granting us victory against you, we have been advocates of peace and affection. We are still committed to the principles of peace and will use every occasion to announce and emphasize them.

One of these principles was underlined by our welcome of UN Security Council Resolution 598. However, we warn you against tampering and demonstrating tactical stands. You must know that our great people have a sufficient degree of awareness. You must also know that the peace path we desire is one that safeguards for Iran its legitimate rights and its sovereignty and that also allows its people and army to live in security and peace alongside Iraq, which deserves to be awarded a peace prize and further pride and stability.

Iraq also deserves complete sovereignty over its territory and waters. Iraq also deserves the right to choose the way of life and ideology it desires and likes. Besides, the region deserves to live in pride, security, stability, and prosperity, encompassing the Arab nation to its farthest ends.

The Wa Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah-IV operations may open broader horizons that would expedite the establishment of a genuine peace by means of a peace and security agreement between the two countries. The arrogance represented in the rejection of holding direct negotiations and of establishing a direct link with the Iraqi representatives to soundly and properly implement UN Security Council Resolution 598 in accordance with its operative paragraphs will do you no good, you O Iranian rulers, and increase the doubts about your seriousness in your pursuit of peace and desire to end the war.

We want to end the entire war and not tackle one aspect of its features. We seek a comprehensive and lasting peace and not a temporary cessation of its fires in accordance with the situation on the war fronts and the political developments. We proved the sincerity of our course in the past when we rejected proposals submitted by UN Security Council members and other states in February 1987 calling for the announcement of a cease-fire after the big Iranian offensive against Basra began

under the unsuccessful slogan "The year of decisiveness." You used this to threaten us with occupying Basra to pave the way for your aggressive and expansionist objectives at the expense of the Arab nation and Iraq.

We then told these quarters that God is capable of protecting the Iraqi people from aggression and added that the Iraqis are determined to resist and foil the enemy's ambitions. Hence, we said that we not only seek a cease-fire, but we want to end the war. Thus, those concerned were convinced with the soundness and logic of our call. Now that you are aware of the differences between our forces and yours, and after the entire world realizes all this, we repeat the same principles and the same logic without trying to achieve any expansionist objectives or any illegitimate gains.

We seek a genuine peace and we do not seek to tamper with the peace formulas or to toy with this peace. We will never allow this to happen. God is great, and let the lowly be accursed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 July 1988

Communique No 3,270

JN2207170088 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1615 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Communique No 3,270 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The combat activities carried out last night and today by our victorious Armed Forces are as follows:

1. The planes of our heroic Air Force continued to carry out resolute attacks and provide splendid support for our valiant Armed Forces while they liberate our dear land from the filth of the evil Khomeyniites. Our rapacious hawks, well-known for their courage and efficiency in carrying out duties, managed to inflict grave losses on the enemy scoundrels and weapon emplacements.

Furthermore, they managed to achieve the following: 13 field headquarters, and four bridges used by the enemy for military purposes were destroyed; 2 enemy surface-to-air Hawk missile batteries in the southern operations sector were destroyed; 244 vehicles of various types were set on fire and destroyed; and 73 gun emplacements were destroyed.

Having carried out 321 combat missions, all of our planes returned safely and victoriously to base in God's care and protection. Blessed be our Air Force—command, hawks, officers, and other ranks. Praise be to God Almighty for His great victory.

2. Our helicopter gunships affiliated to the daring Army helicopter Gunship Corps today carried out 170 combat sorties through which our lofty-minded knights managed, as has always been their custom, to destroy 19 tanks, 3 armored personnel carriers, and 18 vehicles.

They also managed to inflict other losses on the aggressors' troop concentrations and weapon emplacements. Having flown this number of sorties, all of our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, God be praised. Pride and glory belong to the courageous knights of the helicopter gunships. From God Almighty we derive the resolve and the determination.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 July 1988

Communique No 3,271

JN2307164288 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Communique No 3,271 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave Armed Forces continued to carry out their heroic activities in the operation theaters last night and today as follows:

1. Until noon today, the number of prisoners evacuated to the rear lines of the battlefield in the "Wa Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah IV" is as follows:

a. The number of prisoners evacuated from the front of the Presidential Guard and the II Army Corps area of operations has reached 6,863.

b. The number of prisoners evacuated to the rear line of the III Army Corps sector has reached 1,772.

Thus, the total number of prisoners in the two fronts has reached 8,635. More prisoners will be evacuated from these two fronts and from other fronts. Praise be to God for His victory. God is great. Shame to the ignominious.

2. The planes of our heroic Air Force carried out a series of heroic raids on enemy units in the operation theaters. They flew 164 combat missions, destroying many enemy vehicles, armored vehicles, infantry positions, weapons, and equipment. They also dealt accurate and effective blows to one of the large enemy headquarters and an airstrip. After carrying out their duties, our planes returned safely to their bases, in God's care.

3. The Army's brave helicopter gunships continued to inflict more destruction on the scoundrel aggressors. They flew 221 combat missions today, attacked many scoundrel troop concentrations, destroyed several gun

emplacements and infantry positions, and burned 23 tanks and 13 vehicles carrying personnel and equipment. All of our helicopter gunships returned safely to their bases. God be praised.

4. 20 scoundrels were killed and 1 ammunition dump was blown up in the I Army Corps northern sector and a number of infantry positions were destroyed and 1 vehicle was burned in the VII Army Corps front.

5. The criminal Iranian regime shelled residential areas in the township of Halabjah and the Bimalik housing complex. The enemy shelling resulted in the martyrdom of three civilians, including one woman, and the wounding of five civilians. Mercy and forgiveness to our martyrs and swift recovery to our wounded.

[Signed] the Armed Forces General Command, 23 July 1988

Communique No 3,272

JN2407163688 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Communique No 3,272 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 24 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave Armed Forces in the spirit of honor and dignity have celebrated the blessed 'Id al-Adha, expressing their happiness over the victory God has granted them against the Khomeyniites, our country's enemies. On this blessed occasion, our struggling men beseech Almighty God to preserve for great Iraq the leader of its people, the guard of its land, the reviver of its glory, the renewer of its civilization, and the builder of its progress, His Excellency Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces. They also beseech Almighty God to protect His victory. God will respond to our call. The following is a roundup of our units' activities last night and today:

1. The planes of our heroic Air Force carried out 148 combat missions today, inflicting more losses on the aggressors. All of our planes returned safely to their bases except two planes that fell over the enemy's territory. We hold the Iranian side responsible for the safety of the two pilots.

2. Our brave helicopter gunships inflicted important losses on the enemy's personnel, weapons, and equipment in the operation sectors. After carrying out 217 combat missions, all of our helicopter gunships returned safely to base. God be praised.

3. Four scoundrels were killed, one tank was destroyed, and one vehicle was burned in the I Army Corps northern sector and six infantry positions, one observation post, and four machineguns were destroyed and those manning the machineguns were killed in the VII Army Corps front.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 July 1988

Communique No 3,273

JN2507111488 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1030 GMT 25 Jul

[Communique No 3,273 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 25 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O great Iraqi people. O heroic men in the valiant Armed Forces. O sons of our glorious Arab nation.

In all our battles defending the land, security, and sanctities and from the beginning of the war kindled by the evil rulers of Iran to the present—and after Almighty God has granted us success in the "Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah" and "Muhammad is the Messenger of God" operations in liberating our national soil, which was the principal objective of those operations; and as the requirements of the precautionary plans and the destruction of enemy forces required an advance along or inside Iranian territory—in all the said circumstances and conditions we made announcements and we acted on the basis of the declared commitment that we have no ambitions on any part of Iranian territory.

From the technical military aspect, the "Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah-IV" required an advance along axes leading to cutting off enemy units from the rear and surrounding them. Some towns and hamlets occupied by our forces were located along these axes. These towns and hamlets are: The towns of Qasr-e Shirin, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Gilan-e Gharb, Sumar, and Salehabad and the hamlets of Golan, Sar Ney, and Amirabad.

After our valiant units have achieved their objectives—and foremost among these objectives is the liberation of our national soil—it has been decided in accordance with the principles announced by the political leaders and their policy that our forces will withdraw from all these towns and hamlets as of Tuesday, 26 July 1988, corresponding to 12 Dhi al-Hijjah 1408 Hegira: The towns of Qasr-e Shirin, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Gilan-e Gharb, Sumar, and Salehabad and the hamlets of Golan, Sar Ney, and Amirabad.

Thus, we reaffirm to the world, to the Iranian people, and to the Iranian Armed Forces that we fulfill our announced principles and policies and that we do not make principles subject to cheap bargains or the exploitation of circumstances, as the Iranian rulers are doing.

Thereby, we again prove the sincerity of our announcement that we do not covet Iranian land. However, we do not allow anyone to covet our rights and land or to behave in a manner harming our people and threatening the principles, supreme ideals, and interests of the Iraqi people and the Arab nation.

In light of our behavior toward our principles and policy stemming from them, after teaching the evil aggressive regime of Iran the lessons it has witnessed on the battlefields, we will see how this regime will behave toward the issue of peace and direct negotiations to achieve peace and implement UN Security Council Resolution No 598.

We will confront any crooked or tactical stand according to the necessities of the situation. These include exposing the deceptive Iranian policy, exposing the Iranian rulers' measures to gain time in hopes of finding better opportunities for their aggressive policy, and confronting them in all military and political fields in light of developments and in accordance with our declared principles and policy.

God is great. Shame on the ignominious.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 July 1988

Spokesman Denies Bombing

JN2407172688 Baghdad INA in English 1720 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Baghdad, July 24, INA—An Iraqi military spokesman denied Iranian allegations that Iraqi Jets bombed today the Iranian town of Garand Gharb [placename as received].

In a statement to INA, the spokesman said that these allegations are sheer lies and baseless.

Paper Warns Iran Against 'Tampering' With Peace

JN2307073288 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0610 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jul (INA)—AL-THAWRAH affirms that the Iraqi victory in the central sector will expedite more and more the establishment of a genuine peace. The Iraqi newspaper adds that these victories have clearly embodied the great superiority of the Iraqi forces. AL-THAWRAH, the mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, says in an article today that victorious Iraq does not relinquish its firm course or its sincere and deep desire for a comprehensive, lasting, and just peace. Iraq reiterates its welcome of Resolution No 598.

AL-THAWRAH once again warns Tehran's rulers against maneuvers and tactics which no longer deceive anybody. The paper adds that the overall behavior, statements, and stands of Iran cast doubts on the seriousness of the Iranian rulers to end the war.

Yesterday, the Iraqi forces achieved a big victory in liberating Iraqi territory occupied by Iran in the central sector, smashing the Iranian forces, capturing thousands of the enemy soldiers, and seizing large quantities of weapons and equipment.

AL-THAWRAH says: Iraq seeks a comprehensive and lasting peace and wants to end the war with all its problems, results, and aspects. Iraq cannot agree on a temporary cease-fire or on tackling one problem or one side of the war.

The Iraqi paper notes that Iraq had earlier rejected proposals by international quarters in 1987 to a cease fire in the wake of the large-scale Iranian offensive on Basra under the ill-omened slogan: The year of decisiveness. This offensive was later clobbered by the epics of the Great Day, the Great Harvest, and the Blessed Birthday.

AL-THAWRAH stresses that Iraq calls for establishing a genuine peace through the comprehensive and complete implementation of Resolution No 598 with good intention and without expansionist objectives or illegitimate gains. The paper also stresses that tampering and maneuvering with peace formulas and revising tactics to catch a breath will lead the Iranian rulers to more defeats.

AL-THAWRAH emphasizes that the time is passing very quickly and that Iran should make its choice before it loses all options.

Daily Says Iran Still 'Maneuvering' on 598
*JN2307080688 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0620 GMT
23 Jul 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jul (INA)—AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the 'Wa Tawakkalna 'Ala Allah-VI' operations are a new Iraqi lesson to convince Iran and its rulers of

the need to establish a genuine peace with Iraq. In its editorial today, the Iraqi newspaper says that the 'Wa Tawakkalna 'Allah-IV' operations which resulted in the liberation of the Sanuba [name as received] traverse and the occupied part of Sayf Sa'd came to emphasize the importance of establishing a comprehensive peace, not a temporary truce, between Iraq and Iran—a peace that will preserve the two sides' legitimate rights and sovereignty over their national territory.

AL-JUMHURIYAH affirms that Iran is still maneuvering from and evading a comprehensive, lasting, honorable, and genuine peace with Iraq in accordance with Resolution No 598 and the sequence of its operative paragraphs. Otherwise, why did Iran reject direct talks with Iraq under the auspices of the UN General Secretariat?

The Iraqi newspaper emphasizes that Iran's games call on us to be cautious and doubtful as well as to warn all bodies concerned for peace and for ending the war against the wicked intentions contained in the Iranian stands and statements

AL-JUMHURIYAH notes that while Iraq reiterates its deep and honest desire for peace, it warns the Iranian rulers against the return to the course of playing with and falsifying the language of Resolution No 598 and the sequence of its operative paragraphs.

The Iraqi paper says that Iraq reiterates that the implementation of Resolution No 598 in accordance with the sequence of the its operative paragraphs is the only guarantee to prevent the torpedoing of the peace process.

McKay Allegations Termed 'Absurd,' 'Indiscreet'
TA2507064288 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST
in English 25 Jul 88 p 10

[Report by Menahem Shalev]

[Text] The U.S. independent counsel's investigation of Foreign Minister Peres's alleged involvement in the Iraqi oil pipeline affair was "indiscreet and amateurish," sources in the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

In his final report released two weeks ago, independent counsel James McKay, who investigated alleged financial misdeeds by former U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese, concluded that the Labour Party was "probably" offered payoffs in exchange for a pledge by Peres not to attack the planned \$1 billion pipeline.

He also criticized Peres for refusing to cooperate with the investigation, saying that the foreign minister had not replied to written questions submitted to him. Sources close to Peres indicated yesterday that McKay's questions would remain unanswered.

A March 16 letter to McKay from Peres adviser Nimrood Novik, which was obtained by THE JERUSALEM POST, shows that Peres's refusal to cooperate was based on reasons of state and on his anger at the constant leaks from the investigation.

The sources angrily termed McKay's allegations "absurd" and criticized his "indiscreet" handling of the inquiry.

"The counsel's bureau was willing to create a public impression of wrongdoing, basing themselves solely on a memo written by a man who has been indicted (E. Robert Wallach) to one who was suspected (Meese) based on a conversation with a third person (lawyer Bruce Rappaport)," a source said.

McKay's findings were based on a September 25 memorandum from Wallach to his friend Meese, which reported on conversations with Rappaport and alleged that payoffs to Labour had been proposed. Both Peres and Rappaport have categorically denied the allegations.

Beilin Leaves Foreign Ministry; Discusses Term
TA2307103688 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0705 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] After 1 year and 9 months as the Foreign Ministry political director general, Dr Yosi Beilin resigned his post yesterday in anticipation of the upcoming elections. His original nomination for the position of political director general, a position which had not previously existed, was accompanied by upheaval. His remarks and decisions provoked criticism by some and applause by others. With the completion of his term, Dr Beilin spoke to our political affairs correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami, expressing his views on what was and was not accomplished in Israel's foreign policy.

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] Dr Beilin, you have just ended your term of office in the Foreign Ministry. Speaking from the political director's armchair, can you indicate any missed opportunities during your term at the Foreign Ministry; things that should have been done and were not?

[Beilin] I think the biggest missed opportunity occurred in April 1987, when the Cabinet received a proposal for a settlement, an understanding, regarding the nature of the international conference. As was desired by all of us, the proposed conference was not to replace direct negotiations or enable the vetoing of any agreement. Yet, the Cabinet never did debate the proposal.

[Ben-'Ami] This is what is known as the London agreement.

[Beilin] This is how it is known, and I believe it was our most significant missed opportunity. By now we could have either achieved a peace settlement, or be in the midst of direct negotiations with the Jordanians and the Palestinians. The fact that this did not take place is, in retrospect, a near tragedy.

[Ben-'Ami] It is now 8 months since the beginning of the intifada [uprising] in the territories. Do you believe this unbearable situation could have been averted?

[Beilin] It is very difficult to talk about "what if," but I am convinced that had the Cabinet made the decision on the settlement proposal, we would not have been confronted with the intifada. I cannot prove it of course, but it is my innermost conviction that this was our greatest missed opportunity. I also believe that for many years the gravest errors were committed in everything connected with the attitude toward the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In my capacity as both Cabinet secretary and Foreign Ministry political director general, I have had some searing arguments on this subject with the officials in charge of the issue in the territories, mainly with Shmu'el Goren [coordinator of activities in the territories] himself.

I think that the fact that the people in charge made attempts to come to terms exclusively with those whom the Civilian Administration considered to be partners—pro-Israeli Jordanians and pro-Jordanians—was the gravest mistake in this sphere. They could not be the true representatives of the Palestinians of the territories. The carrot and stick policy was too facile and somewhat over-simplistic. There was a neglect of some very moderate elements on the Palestinian street who wanted to create an atmosphere of understanding with us, but were rejected because, erroneously, they were viewed as too radical. I believe this contributed to our present situation.

[Ben-'Ami] You instructed the Israeli embassies, for instance, to refrain from publicizing the Palestinian covenant. Did these changes, or your decisions in the sphere of publicity, have any results, in view of the recent developments?

[Beilin] They certainly did, in that period of 1987 until the intifada. The uprising in the territories overshadowed many of our important achievements, such as the nomination of an Israeli Arab for the position of general consul in Atlanta, the sanctions against South Africa, and other decisions, some minor and others more important. These things put us at an enormous advantage, both in the UN, and in the countries which attach importance to the UN, such as various Scandinavian and European states. We were treated differently during that period.

There is, however, no doubt that the uprising in the territories, and the television images which followed, overshadowed many of our achievements. I agree that what you described is true. I cannot claim that the withdrawal of that unfortunate brochure of Shmu'el Katz on the nonexistence of the Palestinian problem, or the nonexistence of a solution to that problem, is what changed our position in the world. There was, however, a new policy. I think that that policy should be preserved without reference to the intifada. We should adhere to a line of positive publicity, without the folly and unnecessary expense involved in slinging mud at our adversaries.

[Ben-'Ami] Another question for you is in the field of geography. You had a very determined view on the issue of digging water wells in Herodion. In fact, although you became the target for criticism from Cabinet ministers for your intervention, of which they did not approve, your stance on this matter foiled the project.

[Beilin] I do not believe that the Foreign Ministry should be a body forever carrying out the policy of other bodies. We cannot continually face the world and be required to explain policies against which we had cautioned. There is a limit to cynicism; it is virtually a paradox. I think the Foreign Ministry, which is more sensitive to the world than any other element in Israel, should be the one to come before the decisionmakers—without making the decisions in their place—and tell them: Dear friends, we cannot carry out this plan; no one in the world is going to accept this thing.

Naturally, the Cabinet can always say that, with all due respect, they have their own considerations—and we would accept that. The Foreign Ministry's input, however, should be very clear. This is the reason we had a say on the subject of South Africa, and of Herodion, which in my opinion was what called the whole project off, and in other instances in which we acted so as to be able to say that at least we issued a timely warning. As I have said, in several cases we succeeded.

[Ben-'Ami] Then perhaps there is truth in the complaint made by Israeli diplomats, Foreign Ministry officials, that they are insufficiently used along channels leading from the world back to Jerusalem?

[Beilin] I do not doubt this.

[Ben-'Ami] Perhaps the team which arrived with you at the Foreign Ministry did not contribute to that other task?

[Beilin] On the contrary. I believe this team is the one which was alert to the alarms and ideas proposed by our diplomats in the world. It was this team which brought the ideas without any difficulty to the desk of the minister, who could have taken them further to the Cabinet. I do not think there is room to blame the team which arrived with the foreign minister for anything. I think this team was particularly sensitive to problems which arose around the world, and took care of a very large number of them.

[Ben-'Ami] What about our pressures on the United States? Here is an example of pressure we exerted on the Americans to not supply the Saudis with arms, and the Saudis then proceeded to receive them from the British. What did we gain?

[Beilin] I think this is a situation that needs some careful examining. Helped by AIPAC [American Israel Political Action Committee], the pro-Israeli lobby, we manage from time to time to influence the U.S. Congress and the Senate into making pro-Israeli decisions. Sometimes these decisions obviously backfire.

If, for instance, a resolution is made saying that the United States will withdraw from any international organization from which Israel is barred, a situation is created in which the majority is against us, and the United States comes to us and says: Look, do us a favor, do not ask to join that organization, because if your application is denied, we will have to quit. And since we are pro-American, we take their requests into consideration. If no such resolution existed, we could try our luck and apply to join certain organizations. If we managed, it would be fine, and if we did not, no harm would be done. This is perhaps the most tangible demonstration of how excessive success can also be a failure.

I am also not certain that our policy on arms supply to all Arab countries should be as unequivocal. In some cases we could certainly agree to the supply of certain kinds of weapons, which are less dangerous to Israel. The United States could give the Arabs those weapons, since the Arab states in any event have enough money to purchase arms. It sometimes happens that they finally receive arms from sources about which we are not happy. I believe, therefore, that even over this broad sphere of arms we should be more flexible in our talks with the Americans.

[Ben-'Ami] You are now leaving the Foreign Ministry. Do you believe that you will be able to exert more influence as a Knesset Member—if you are indeed elected to the Knesset—so as to make up for all the missed opportunities you have mentioned?

[Beilin] As far as influence goes, I am not in a position to know that. I do not know what position I will have in the Knesset, on which committee I will sit. My desire to be

in the Knesset dates back many years. I know that in the end, even if you start out on the back benches, there is no place more real and more legitimate than the Knesset from which to have an impact. It is possible to have considerable influence as a director general, but only as a direct result of one's control of resources. In the Knesset you can have influence because it is the place from which all influence comes. [end recording]

Rabin Notes 'Religious Angle' of 'Uprising'

TA2507124788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1005 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe during a tour of Ashqelon on 25 July—recorded]

[Text] [Menashe] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, over the past few days there has been a deterioration in the territories. Some think that the clash, which started out as a political struggle, is now turning into a religious fight.

[Rabin] There is no doubt that certain elements in the territories have attempted to take advantage of 'Id al-Adha and provide the political struggle, which is the essence of the violent civilian struggle in the territories, with a religious angle. The events in Jerusalem are a good case in point. We will do our best to separate the two. We will attempt to restore the political dimension of the struggle between us and the Arab countries that have not yet reached a peace agreement with us, as well as the Palestinians in the territories.

As for the recent events, there has been a certain outburst. I believe, however, that it must be viewed in the right perspective. On the whole, save for the incidents last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday—the main day of the holiday—I believe that we have maintained control and prevented an increase of violence. I even believe that we will be able to cut it down. The notion that there has been greater activity in the territories recently results somewhat from the nature of our response, which is firmer, and which I believe will help achieve calm.

[Menashe] Despite that, you have decided to release 150 detainees.

[Rabin] This would mainly effect the Gaza Strip, where violence has not increased the way it did in the areas of Nabulus, Janin, and Tulkarm, or—to some extent—also in East Jerusalem. We do not look at the uprising from a general point of view. Rather, we examine each place on its own. Thus, we treat the Gaza Strip and Judaea and Samaria separately, and within these areas, we treat each place individually.

[Menashe] To what extent, in your opinion, do the events in Jerusalem influence what is happening in the territories?

[Rabin] Look, there has always been an effect. Sometimes that influence comes from Jerusalem, at other times it comes into Jerusalem from the outside. There is a mutual influence. When they want a religious aspect to be introduced into the political struggle, they usually start in Jerusalem. But we will take care of that.

[Menashe] Finally, a nagging question: Will the uprising really last for years?

[Rabin] I do not believe so. [end recording]

IDF's Mitzna' Cited on Policy in Territories

TA2207173588 Jerusalem Television Service
in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Interview with Major General 'Amram Mitzna', commander of the IDF Central Command, by an unidentified correspondent in the commander's office; date not given—videotaped in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Text] [Mitzna'] The IDF and the security forces as a whole are instructed to show restraint and caution, and to use firearms only when there is absolutely no other choice. It seems to me that sometimes the local inhabitants misinterpret this to be a show of hesitation and an attempt to avoid a confrontation with the instigators. The soldiers receive clear, unambiguous orders. In times of riots that exceed certain bounds, they use firearms. Unfortunately, this results in casualties.

Since we increased the number of troops and briefed the soldiers carefully, the results have indeed been [words indistinct] casualties.

[Correspondent] Right now, approximately 200,000 or more residents of the territories are subjected to curfews. Will the policy of imposing curfews continue as long as the uprising continues?

[Mitzna'] Certainly. The policy of taking firm action against places or centers that engage in violent activity, beginning with the throwing of stones, will be strictly adhered to. We will put such areas under curfew for the sake of the inhabitants' well-being and for the safety of the entire region.

[Correspondent] Are you contemplating further measures to instill calm in Judaea and Samaria? Also, let us not forget that 'Id al-Adha is approaching. What are you going to do?

[Mitzna'] We are employing a variety of means. We have no other measures lined up, although we will diversify our activity to suit the events in the area. As I have already said, we will use all the necessary force in those places where we see violence. We will not allow stones to be thrown or, of course, firebombs to be hurled. Likewise, we will not permit violent riots along the roads. Under no circumstances will we allow this to continue.

Let me take this opportunity to appeal to those inhabitants who are watching this program at home on the eve of your holiday to wish them a happy holiday, one in which every individual will engage in a silent dialogue with his God. This is a time for soul searching. Let everyone think carefully about the bottom line and consider the achievements of the past few months versus the losses, the casualties, the others who were injured, and the people who have lost their source of income and currently suffer economic distress. I hope this soul searching will lead to at least one conclusion, namely, that it is necessary to talk and explain, but violence will not yield anything.

Court Authorizes 1st Expropriation of Arab Home
TA2407114988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] The High Court of Justice today authorized an IDF unit in Halhul to expropriate an apartment overlooking the main road facing the Blue Mosque. Our correspondent 'Adi Malul reports that this is the first time the IDF has asked that an Arab be evacuated from his house to enable soldiers to maintain an observation post overlooking the road. The mosque has been the center of riots and stone-throwing. The owner of the house, Muhammad Abu Ghayan, is to evacuate his house until 1800 Wednesday and the decree will remain in effect for 3 months. The family will be moved to another apartment in Hebron.

6 Arab 'Organizers' Face Deportation 'Soon'
TA2207161388 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Six Arab inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria will be deported soon. Our Army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that they were among the chief organizers and perpetrators of the riots and disturbances in the territories.

A Central Command source has said that he does not anticipate a new wave of unrest in the territories over these expulsions, although the persons involved are central and highly influential figures.

More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

2 Held for Carrying Firebombs
TA2207174888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Excerpt] This evening it has become evident that the two people arrested while entering the Temple Mount before the Friday prayers began are Israeli Arabs from Kafr Tira in the Triangle. Our correspondent reports that the husband carried a box that contained 10 firebombs ready for use. The load was discovered during a routine search. The couple was taken for questioning. [passage omitted]

2 Houses Firebombed

TA2307114488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] The Galilee District Police are trying to identify unknown persons who threw three Molotov cocktails at two houses of educators yesterday in the Galilee village of 'Arraba. Two of the Molotov cocktails exploded, but caused no damage.

Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that the police are considering the possibility that the act was an attempt to harm persons believed to be collaborating with the authorities.

The Galilee District Police are also investigating tire slashings of six cars parked on one of the main streets of Kefar Havradim, near Ma'alot. In this case, too, nationalistic motives are believed to have prompted the act.

Disturbances in East Jerusalem

TA2307124588 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] Serious disturbances occurred in the Old City of Jerusalem today. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that in a series of incidents in the Christian Quarter and near the Damascus Gate this morning, an Arab resident and an Israeli citizen were injured in the head. The Israeli was taken to a hospital.

The events were sparked off when the family of the Christian youth who was killed this week, together with several hundred mourners, visited his grave. They later held a procession, marching from the Latin Church near the New Gate to the Khan al-Zayt neighborhood where the youth lived. After that riots broke out, and Christian youths started throwing stones and empty bottles at border policemen, who dispersed them with tear gas. An Arab was hit in the head by a bottle, and an Israeli was also hit in the head by a stone near the 'Ateret Kohanim Yeshiva and was rushed to the hospital. Soon after that a fight broke out between the yeshiva students and the Arab youths. Several rioters were hurt by tear gas.

Another center of riots was near the Damascus Gate where police forced shopowners to close their stores and cleared peddlers from the area. Tear gas was used there as well. Our correspondent says that the police anticipated the riots and had set roadblocks at Gilo junction and on the Shu'fat road. This way residents of the territories were unable to enter East Jerusalem or the Old City.

IDF Patrol in Gaza Firebombed

TA2407055288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] In Gaza, a firebomb was thrown at an IDF patrol last night. There were no casualties or damage. Soldiers opened fire at the attacker throwing the firebomb, but missed.

14 Arab Youths Detained

TA2407065788 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
0405 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Report by Moti Amir]

[Excerpts] A group of Jewish worshippers was stoned last night near the Damascus Gate of the Old City. A brawl then broke out between several Kakh members and Arabs. Some of the Arabs were beaten, and police questioned more than 10 Kakh members on involvement in this act. [passage omitted]

At nearly 1500 yesterday a riot developed at the old bus stop on Al-Sultan Sulayman Street in East Jerusalem. Youths threw stones and empty bottles, and the police dispersed them with tear gas. The police detained 14 Arab youths for involvement in yesterday's riots in Jerusalem.

[Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 24 July, in a report by Andy Court and Ben Lynfield on pages one and eight adds as follows: "In the Gaza Strip on Friday night, a resident of the Al-Shati' refugee camp was wounded in the stomach by gunfire. The IDF is investigating whether he was shot by troops who had been attacked by a petrol bomb in Falastin Square in the center of Gaza. Ziyad al-Salut, 22, was in stable condition yesterday at Al-Shifa' Hospital in Gaza."]

West Bank 'Quiet' 24 Jul

TA2407080888 *Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew*
0730 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Disturbances were reported in several locations in the Gaza Strip. A curfew was imposed on Bayt Hanun in the northern sector of the Strip, and on the Jabalyah refugee camp. The disturbances included stone throwing and tire burning. Despite the scheduled general strike, most of the Gaza Strip shops are open this morning.

Quiet has been observed so far in Judaea and Samaria where over 100,000 residents are under curfew. Curfews remain in force in Nabulus and the neighboring old and new Askar refugee camps, as well as the Balatah refugee camp. Also under curfew are Qalqilyah and the Christian town of Bayt Sahur.

All businesses in Judaea and Samaria are closed today for 'Id al-Adha, and workers have not left for jobs in Israel.

Old City Demonstration Stopped

TA2407105488 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
1000 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] The police have stopped members of the Temple Mount Faithful and members of Tehiya and Kakh from holding a march and waving banners and placards in the Old City alleys. An argument broke out between the policemen and the demonstrators. The policemen shoved the men from the passageway to the Western Wall Plaza back to the Old City alleys.

Our correspondent Moti Amir adds that in the western part of town, the police summoned the chairman of the committee for safety on the roads, Shmu'el Ben-Yishay, for questioning. The members of this committee today began armed patrols along traffic axes that have been sites of trouble, and Old City alleys.

2 Jabalyah Youths Wounded

TA2407114088 *Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew*
1130 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Two Palestinian youths from the Jabalyah refugee camp were wounded by IDF gunfire during the dispersal of demonstrations. The camp is under curfew. The above was reported by our correspondent 'Ezra Yanuv.

Youth Shot During Riot

TA2407134688 *Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew*
1330 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] An inhabitant of Bayt Jala was wounded today during riots in the town. The incident occurred when dozens of youths demonstrated and tried to block the Hebron-Jerusalem road. Our correspondent 'Eran Ben-Porat reports that soldiers were stoned in one of the alleys and were forced to open fire, injuring a youth, who was transferred to the Bayt Jala hospital and from there to Hadassah-En Kerem Hospital.

Youth Dies

TA2407201188 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
2000 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In Bayt Jala, our correspondent reports that one of the inhabitants was seriously wounded in a riot and later died of his wounds.

1 Killed, 3 Wounded in Qabatiyah

TA2407194188 *Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew*
1930 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] An inhabitant of Qabatiyah was killed and three others were wounded during riots in the township. The incident occurred when a procession left the local cemetery along the main street without the intervention of the Army. Later, security forces tried to disperse the demonstrators. An officer was injured, and his men, who felt endangered, opened fire killing the local resident. The three casualties were transferred to a Janin hospital and were later sent home.

Curfew in Bayt Jala, Qabatiyah

TA2507050988 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
0400 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Excerpts] Curfews were imposed last night on Qabatiyah in Samaria and Bayt Jala in Judaea following incidents yesterday which resulted in the death of two residents. [passage omitted]

East Jerusalem was quiet last night. Large police and Border Police forces will remain in Jerusalem today and tomorrow, the last 2 days of 'Id al-Adha.

General Strike in Bethlehem

TA2507083188 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
0800 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] A general strike is currently being staged in Bethlehem to protest the killing of a Bayt Jala Arab by IDF soldiers. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that last night several firebombs were thrown at IDF patrols in the area of Bayt Jala. No one was hurt. The security forces have placed Bayt Jala and the nearby Ayda refugee camp under curfew.

Riot Near Jabal al-Mukabar

TA2507114288 *Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew*
1130 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] A short time ago police dispersed a riot near Jabal al-Mukabar, where some 50 Arab youths set up a roadblock with stones and burned tires. Our police affairs correspondent Shlomi Stein reports that the police used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the rioters.

147 Prisoners Released in Gaza

TA2507125488 *Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew*
1230 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] The military government in the Gaza Strip released 147 administrative detainees and convicted prisoners a short time ago as a goodwill gesture on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha, our correspondent 'Ezra Yanuv reports. The prisoners were transferred this morning from the Qezi'ot detention center to a building in Gaza where they were briefed by an officer of the Civilian Administration and then sent home.

4 IDF Soldiers Injured

TA2507125188 *Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew*
1230 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] Four IDF soldiers were injured in Gaza at noon in a traffic accident after their vehicle was stoned. The driver lost control of the vehicle, which overturned wounding the occupants. Two sustained medium wounds and two were slightly hurt. They were transferred to the Barzilay Medical Center in Ashqelon for treatment.

Statistics on Appeals to High Court of Justice

TA2507062288 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
0405 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] Over the past 8 months, the High Court of Justice has received 66 appeals dealing with events in the territories. One-third of them were dropped by the appellants themselves even before the hearing, and there has been no discussion of, or ruling on, one-half of them; the 12 that have been heard were rejected.

The largest number of appeals dealt with house demolitions. Out of 17 such appeals, 3 were canceled, and in the remaining 14 cases, interim injunctions were issued to prevent the demolition or sealing of the houses until a decision is reached. There has been no final ruling on any of these appeals. Most of them were submitted over the past 2 months, when the method of demolishing or boarding up the houses of firebomb throwers became more widespread. Military sources have reported that during this period, 52 houses were demolished or sealed.

Other appeals concern deportations or, conversely, bans on leaving Israel, while some have to do with the representation of administrative or other detainees. These, however, constitute only a small fraction of the total number of appeals. Approximately 3,000 administrative detainees are currently being held in the territories and the Qezi'ot lockup facility.

Most of the appeals concern detention procedures and the hearing of the appeals, but the appellants do not question the detention orders themselves. The total number of appeals related to the uprising since its outbreak constitute approximately 12 percent of all the appeals submitted to the High Court of Justice.

IDF Seeks Budget Supplement for Territories

TA2207151988 *Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew*
1500 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Lieutenant General Dan Shomron, the chief of staff, conferred with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this afternoon. They discussed the supplementary budget required by IDF activities in the territories. Our Army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the IDF is demanding an additional 263 million shekels. The defense establishment had budgeted 400 million shekels for IDF operations in the territories over the past 6 months. The Treasury has already agreed to cover part of that sum.

Fadlallah Calls for 'Happy End' to Hostage Issue
NC2407103188 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic*
1015 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah today called for finding a happy end to the issue of the hostages. In a sermon today, he said: We know that the matter has somehow become complicated and that the political and humanitarian aspects have become mixed up.

Criticizes U.S.

NC2407120388 *(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon* 1130 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has said that a president who turns to the outside world is bound to remain a hostage of the outside world, and we must not be optimistic about a solution.

He attacked the United States and some other countries which have hostages in Lebanon and which are trying to exploit them in favor of some political plans to dominate the world.

He said that through the hostages the United States and some European countries have opened the subject of terrorism. The United States is not trying to combat terrorism, but to exploit this issue in order to blackmail all the countries of the world.

He called for finding final solutions to the foreign hostages issue.

Al-Jumayyil Notes Start of Election Period
NC2307165288 *(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic* 1545 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] It was announced this evening that President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has sent a message to Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni on the start of the constitutional period for the presidential elections.

President al-Jumayyil asked Al-Husayni to exercise his right to call the Chamber of Deputies to meet as soon as possible to elect a new president of the republic. He stressed his complete readiness to undertake any endeavor to secure the appropriate environment for a successful voting process.

President al-Jumayyil said: Proceeding with choosing the president of the Republic in the manner in which the Lebanese people desire and deserve will facilitate the new president's confronting the issues of national reconciliation, constitutional reforms, and reconstruction of our country, society, and institutions.

Birri Discusses Election, Iranian Decision
NC2207172088 *Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic*
1530 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the South, discussed the people's affairs and anxieties at a news conference this afternoon. He said: Importing waste, implementing power cuts, rationing the water supply to the Sodeco area, obstructing the repair of the Galerie Sim'an power line, stopping loans to the South, instigating the pilots to go on strike and close the airport, and blowing up cars in the national areas will not make us change our convictions or cause us to despair.

Birri said that the fighting which took place in the 'Akkar area constituted an intrigue directed against the Syrian role on the eve of the election. He added that sympathizers with Israeli policy in Lebanon needed incidents similar to those in Zahlah before the constitutional deadline.

Minister Birri criticized the activities of the Maronite patriarch, without naming him. He said: Some persons have gone abroad, not carrying the cross of Lebanon but carrying that of the Vatican.

He reiterated his demand that accord be reached before the presidential election, stating: We do not want a security solution but a comprehensive political solution. He said that the president does not approve the security plan announced by the interior minister.

Referring to the question of the quorum for the Chamber of Deputies session that will elect a new president, Birri declared: There will be a quorum if 66 deputies attend. Any calculation based on the 1982 election means reliance on Israeli force.

Regarding the effect of the Iranian decision on Lebanon, the minister of state for the South said: It is not so much that the Islamic Republic of Iran has accepted Resolution 598 as that the Security Council, or more precisely its permanent members, has forcibly embarked on the implementation of this resolution.

He accused the great powers of entering the war against Islam in Iran and forcing the Iranian leaders to accept the resolution. He expressed surprise that the great powers agree on the implementation of Resolution 598, which was issued less than a year ago, but not on the implementation of Resolution 425 on South Lebanon, which entered its 10th year several months ago.

Al-Husayni Comments on Birri's Remarks on Quorum
NC2307093288 *(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon* 0900 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] Commenting on Mr Nabih Birri's remarks regarding a legal quorum during the Chamber of Deputies session to elect the president of the republic, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni has said: Whether

the view is correct or not, every citizen has the right to express his view on any public issue. Therefore, Minister Birri is entitled to express any view and to adopt any position he wants.

Al-Husayni added: The Justice Ministry and the justice minister cannot officially express a view on a subject which is within the sole jurisdiction of the Chamber of Deputies.

Muftis Speak on Elections, Resistance

NC2407082388 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Excerpt] In his blessed 'Id al-Adha sermon today, His Eminence Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the Lebanese Republic, called for serious efforts to ensure that the constitutional deadline period is passed peacefully in order to frustrate the designs of saboteurs. He also called for a president who will work for reconciliation on the basis of justice, accord, and reforms; who will put an end to anarchy; and who will promote coexistence under a just and legitimate authority that safeguards freedom and dignity.

Mufti Khalid stressed that fighting the enemy is the most honorable task, both inside the occupied Arab territory and in Lebanon. The fields of honor, he said, are not the streets of peaceful towns, the camps, or any part of the Arab homeland but [in fighting] the Israeli arrogance. He appealed to the Arab states to assist the uprisers inside usurped Palestine who are recording a brilliant history in the fields of dignity and honor.

Mufti Khalid welcomed the step toward unity undertaken by the Arab Maghreb states, and called for making it the foundation stones for Arab unity. He also welcomed Iran's acceptance of UN Resolution 598 which called for a cease-fire and ending the Gulf war.

In another 'Id al-Adha sermon, His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, the Ja'farite mufti, stated that the primary issue in the elections should be the South and its liberation from occupation. He called for a president who will abolish the corrupt system based on political sectarianism, who will work on the basis that there should be no second- or third-class citizens, who will not bring darkness and gloom to Lebanon and the Lebanese, and who will open the crossing points and remove the barriers.

He stipulated that the presidential election should be coupled with reconciliation or with a work program drawn up by the new president, adding that there should be guarantees by those working for a solution to the Lebanese problem.

Mufti Qabalan thanked the Syrian Arab forces, who restored calm in the southern suburb of Beirut and worked to stop bloodshed. He called on everyone to forget the past and cast out hatred, and to work for the development of the suburb through unity and the elimination of all rancor and hatred.

Mufti Qabalan called for the escalation of the resistance against the Israeli occupation in the South, drawing attention to the hardships facing the Al-Khiyam detainees and criticizing the Arab states which have turned their attention away from the resisting South and toward the Gulf. He also called on Israel to implement Resolution 425 and the armistice agreement. [passage omitted]

'9 February' Claims Attack on Syrians 22 Jul

NC2307090388 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0845 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Excerpt] The Khalil 'Akkawi Forces of the 9 February Organization have claimed responsibility for an attack on a Syrian occupation army position opposite the military beach in West Beirut at 2200 yesterday. A statement by the Organization said that the attackers used machineguns and grenades against an occupation army Land Rover, wounding four of its occupants. [passage omitted]

'Senior Official' To Visit Tehran in Peace Move
*JN2307062588 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0605 GMT
23 Jul 88*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Jul (WAKH)—Press reports said here today that a senior Syrian official will visit the Iranian capital in the coming few days within a joint Syrian-Soviet move and become closely acquainted with Tehran's stand on finally ending the war with Iraq.

The Abu Dhabi-based paper AL-ITTIHAD today quoted diplomatic sources as saying that the visit of the Syrian official, who is expected to be Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', was decided in the wake of the talks held with the Syrian official by Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR first deputy prime minister, after his tour of Baghdad, Tehran, and Damascus. The sources added that the Syrian envoy will convey an important letter from the Syrian leadership to the Iranian leadership.

Assembly Speaker Receives NSSP Delegation
*JN2307185488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1815 GMT 23 Jul 88*

[Text] People's Assembly speaker 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah this afternoon received 'Isam Mahayri, one of the leaders of the National Syrian Social Party [NSSP] in Lebanon, and the accompanying delegation. Shakir Su'ayid, chairman of the Arab and international affairs committee of the People's Assembly, attended.

During the meeting, they reviewed developments in the Arab arena in general and the Lebanese arena in particular. Qaddurah heard from Mahayri a presentation on the Arab community's activities abroad. The Arab community abroad affirmed the importance of the Syrian role in decision-making in the Middle East and the role played by President Hafiz al-Asad in confronting U.S. imperialist and Zionist designs in the region.

The delegation's members congratulated the People's Assembly speaker on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha.

Paper Views U.S.-Israeli Ground Exercises
*JN2507062188 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0445 GMT 25 Jul 88*

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Path of Resistance" TISHRIN says: It is an indisputable fact that the Reagan administration cannot be a mediator in the Arab-Israeli conflict, as some Arabs claim. The United States is totally biased in favor of the Israeli enemy. Indeed, it is a partner in the aggression against the Arab nation and the Palestinian people.

The sole aim of the U.S.-Israeli joint ground exercises—which were preceded by naval exercises—is to consolidate the aggressive strategic alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv and to send the Arabs the message that the United States will not accept less than Israel will.

TISHRIN adds: The U.S.-Israeli joint exercises constitute a clear message to the Arabs, and the Palestinian people's uprising in turn constitutes a clear message to the Americans and the Zionists. Therefore, every honest Arab citizen rejects the constant claim of a balanced U.S. role in the region and the advocacy of U.S. mediation at a time when the United States daily declares that it wholeheartedly supports Israel, that the racist and aggressive entity is an indispensable strategic support, and that the Arabs have no choice other than to negotiate with the enemy.

TISHRIN says: Syria, through the leader al-Asad, has repeatedly warned against capitulation and pinning hopes on U.S. solutions. Washington is implementing a purely Israeli policy. Syria has repeatedly emphasized that the Arab path toward regaining rights, land, and sanctities is the path of steadfastness, resistance, and national pride. The correctness of this clear Syrian stand is being proved daily. Those who are very eager to join the United States and the enemy will only meet disappointment and humiliation. It is Arab resistance alone that can compel the United States to recognize the Palestinian people's inalienable rights and submit to their aspirations.

Anti-Iraq Group Welcomes Iran's Acceptance of 598
*JN2307144488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 23 Jul 88*

[Text] An official spokesman for the Iraq Branch Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has stated the following:

Our party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, Iraq Branch Command, has received, positively and with great hope, the 18 July 1988 announcement of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in which it accepted, without any preconditions, Security Council Resolution 598. The party's positions stems from the basis that this international resolution, with its clauses, lays the correct framework for ending the fighting and opens the doors to a just peace between our country, Iraq, and neighboring Iran.

Since Saddam launched the war against Iran on 22 Septemebr 1980, our party had a firm principled stand in denouncing this suspect war—its objectives, direction, and continuation. During these 8 bloody years, this war claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of our homeland's and Iran's best youths, dreadfully destroyed the economies of both countries, and pushed both of them and the whole region into imminent dangers—the

most notable of which is the return of the powers coveting our wealth under different banners, such as this intensive presence of imperialist fleets in the Arabian Gulf.

The continuation of this mad war helped the forces of the imperialist-Zionist alliance to escalate its vicious campaign against forces of Arab resistance and steadfastness. This helped to spread Camp David's course, which aims to implement other steps in spreading the era of capitulation and Zionism throughout the Arab region.

Our party believes that serious work to implement the clauses of the Security Council resolution will provide a real opportunity for the peace desired by the Iraqi and Iranian peoples, who paid dearly for this terrible war. Both peoples urgently need this peace to prevent total collapse and disintegration.

The latest developments clearly show what we have always affirmed that the bloody fascism ruling our wounded Iraq constitutes the face of this dirty war. This facism is totally incapable of creating, or of participating in creating, the desired peace. Therefore, current circumstances and developments provide the historic opportunity and the solid base for unity among the Iraqi national opposition forces. It also provides for a qualitative escalation toward disposing of the fascist regime through our free Iraqi will, represented by the whole of our Iraqi people and valiant Army, and to settle accounts with Saddam and his clique, which turned Iraq into rubble.

Commentary Assails Iraqi 'Insistence' on War
JN2407135488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1140 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: It may seem at first sight that the Iraqi regime's insistence on carrying on the war which is wreaking havoc on the Iraqi and Iranian peoples and the scramble of those who cannot wait to climb on the bandwagon of American Camp David are unconnected. However, this connection appears extremely clear in terms of substance and goal.

The intensification of Saddam's war and his insistence on pursuing it and obstructing the chance that has presented itself through UN Security Council Resolution No 598, will further erode the capabilities of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples and extend the war to the Gulf region and turn it into a Persian-Arab war and subsequently achieve one of the most serious aims of Camp David by finding replacement battles for the Arab-Israeli conflict, and depleting Arab resources from the arena of confrontation with the Zionist enemy.

Through this plan to disperse and tear Arab resources and keep them from being crystallized into a unified Arab strategy of action to confront and topple the Zionist onslaught and the American containment policies in the Middle East, the deviationist line in the Palestinian camp moves to achieve its objectives. This is because weakening the Arabs in the eyes of those chasing the mirage of an American solution paves the way for promoting the capitulationist line and direct negotiation with the Zionist enemy, not just to quell the popular uprising in the occupied Arab land but to liquidate the Palestinian cause as well through giving in to the terms of the Zionist enemy and Camp David's plans for an emasculated self-rule that retains and confers legitimacy on the Israeli occupation.

The aim is also to blow up prospects for an authoritative UN-sponsored international conference that would give substance to UN resolutions recognizing the Arab rights to regain their occupied land and the inalienable rights of the Palestinians to statehood.

The fascist Iraqi regime's intensification of the war and its insistence on frustrating the current efforts to implement Resolution No. 598 fit nicely with the feverish attempts by the deviationist 'Arafatist eagerness to join direct negotiations with the Zionist enemy. Hence the importance of the Arabs, particularly in the Gulf, moving to contain the atrocious war of Saddam and upgrading Arab action to a strategic level by supporting the uprising and confronting the machinations of Camp David. They would thus be following in Syria's footsteps in the Arab arena and its determined stand against the expansionist, racist Zionist onslaught.

Afghanistan

Resistance News Agency Says Najibullah To Resign
OW2407084888 Beijing XINHUA in English 0813 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Islamabad, July 24 (XINHUA)—Soviet-backed Kabul head Najibullah intends to resign his post as president of Afghanistan due to the prevailing chaotic situation in the country, Afghan resistance news agency, the AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) said here today.

He decided to resign on July 20 but later he postponed his decision to early August. Soviet advisers were reported to have asked him to reconsider his decision.

Najibullah has reluctantly agreed to wait for another 15 days and in case the situation does not improve by then he will resign, ANA said.

Gulabzoy, interior minister of Afghanistan, who was opposed to put civil-armed forces of Afghanistan under the Afghan Regular Army has been arrested and dispatched by Najibullah to the Soviet Union, the same sources said.

Gulabzoy's father came and requested Najibullah to get his son back to Afghanistan, but Najibullah consoled him by saying that very soon they will all be in the Soviet Union, the sources added.

Brig. Gul Rahim, who was in charge of the security forces of the presidential palace has deserted after big explosions in the palace recently along with 370 security guards personnel and is now fighting jihad (holy war) against the Kabul regime, ANA said.

Najibullah Delivers 'Id al-Adha Speech
LD2407213188 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 0600 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Kabul, 23 July, BAKHTAR—The speech of Esteemed Najibullah on the occasion of 'Id al-Adha, which was delivered over Afghanistan radio and television:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Faithful compatriots, brothers, and sisters, I cordially commend the auspicious days of 'Id al-Adha to the Muslim nation, elders, youths, men and women, ulema and clergy, workers and farmers, doctors, lecturers and teachers, students and pupils, and arts and cultural workers.

I also congratulate the soldiers and brave heroes of the Armed Forces, noncommissioned officers, officers and generals, and all those who have spent time away from their families and relations at border posts and security posts in the deserts and outskirts and on the peaks of the skyscraping mountains of our dear country. Weapons in

hand, they defend the dignity of 'Id al-Adha, the honor and dignity of the oppressed nation of Afghanistan, and the independence, freedom, and territorial integrity of our country.

I congratulate our Muslim, proud, freedom-loving Pash-tun and Baluchi brothers with whom we have a common history, common traditions, and common friends and enemies.

I congratulate the faithful people of Iran and Pakistan with whom we have feelings of friendship and fraternity.

I congratulate the Muslims of the world with whom we are united by the great goal of truthful service of God. I congratulate all Muslims who are performing hajj ceremonies in Mecca.

Dear compatriots, the auspicious days of 'Id are great days for the Muslims of the world. This 'Id is the witness of truthfulness and sacrifice of Muslims in the name of God. The social reality of this auspicious 'Id is hidden in the fact that God directs his creatures for unity. Therefore, during these great days Muslims from various parts of the world come together in Mecca, and during the fulfillment of the hajj they visit one another and exchange views on various religious, political, economic, and cultural issues, and express their Islamic unity with one another.

'Id al-Adha calls on every Muslim to forget his differences and hostilities. It is for this reason that Muslims of our country and Muslims of the world gather in mosques to perform prayers; they go to one another's homes, embrace one another, and wish each other prosperity, happiness, and health.

Dear brother, right now we have returned from the performance of 'Id al-Adha prayers. Every real and patriotic Muslim has prayed for a quick end to the war and fratricide and cessation of the continuation of bloodshed in Afghanistan and the securing of peace in the country.

For 10 years we have celebrated the auspicious days of 'Id before God while one Muslim shed the blood of another Muslim; a brother, at the enemy's instigation, kills another brother; and our children, who have become fatherless at the blood stained hands of the mercenaries, shed tears at this moment in memory of their fathers; and our sisters who have become widows through the enemies of God and people's peace and tranquility, and through their ruthless and inhuman crimes, now stand at the gravesides of their martyred husbands; and our mothers in black chadors shed tears in memory of their sons who were the victims of the barbarism of the extremists.

All members of families cannot come together during this auspicious celebration. Our soldiers, who defend the lives of their peace-loving people, do not remove their

fingers from the triggers of their rifles. Yes, 10 continuous years of this futile and intense war, which has caused the destruction of the lives of many innocent people, have passed. Yes, for this reason we will stand accountable before God, because God call us to peace, not war. God says in the Holy Koran: Indeed Muslims are brothers, and make peace among your brothers.

Let us shed light on who is to blame for the war; we or the irreconcilable extremists? What have we done and do, and what have they done and do? We have built more than 2,000 mosques and takia khana [Shia gathering places for special occasions]. They have destroyed 389 mosques and takia khana. We have trained more than 600 religious teachers while they have martyred 1154 imams and ulemas over this period. We have established the Institute of Islamic Teaching and Research; they have destroyed five madrassas. We declared a cease-fire and extended it many times, while extremists in response have increased their subversive activities two or three times.

We happily signed the Geneva agreements while the extremists absolutely rejected them. The limited contingents of the Soviet Union have started returning to their peace-loving country while the extremists create obstacles in the way of their withdrawal.

When the holy war is not meaningful anymore, the continuation of war means fratricide. We call all compatriots to peace, by which we fulfill our Islamic duty and anyone who wants the war to continue, will then bear the responsibility for the fratricide. We have allowed all armed opponents to come to the city of Kabul and provincial cities to visit their relatives and compatriots during the auspicious days of 'Id al-Adha to congratulate them for 'Id, and we take part in their happiness. But the extremists have increased their heavy-arms shelling of our cities.

We call on them to negotiate and to participate in administering the country, but they are determined to destroy the country and to set up a confederation with the Pakistan Government. In brief, we appeal to them for peace, but they call on us to continue the war.

I am sure a real Muslim will give a correct (?positive) answer as to who is the culprit. We have every reason to say that we have discharged our duties in the best possible way and we keep discharging them in the name of God and before the sacred religion of Islam's Koran and also before our nation, which craves peace.

You know that our peace-loving patriotic ulema and clergy approve of the policy of national reconciliation, a correct and rational policy for the present situation of our country. National reconciliation is in keeping with the holy religion of Islam and accords with Islamic and national traditions. Therefore, this policy passed quickly into the hearts and wisdom of the people and became the

policy of every patriotic person. We, the servants of God, thank him for showing us the correct way, that is, the way of peace and conciliation.

With the help of God and with the active support of the people of Afghanistan, we have carried out great achievements for this path of realism, so that peace returns to every home across the country: I mean, the convocation of the Grand Assembly, the approval of the new democratic Constitution, and the holding of the first democratic and free elections (by people?) for the Milli Shura; the signing of the Geneva agreements; the convening of the first parliamentary session; and the forming of the coalition government.

I am speaking only of the changes that have taken place since the declaration of national reconciliation. A new political system, the multiparty and coalition system, has come into being. You know that the Islamic Party of Afghanistan has been set up. It means that the ulema of the country are highly active. In all these measures and, similarly, in all legal documents, nothing that is against the tenets of the religion of Islam can be seen. All of them are in complete compliance with the spirit of the holy religion of Islam.

Dear compatriots, now the important issue is the implementation of the Geneva agreements. As far as the Republic of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union are concerned, they consistently and truly fulfill all their undertakings. But the other side, that is, Pakistan, blatantly does not observe the agreements. Not only does it disregard the agreements, but it also vigorously increases its interference in the internal affairs of our country. For this reason war and bloodshed goes on in the country. The extremists and their supporters are to be blamed for it. As long as war continues in the country no Afghan can sit silent.

It is not correct if it is thought that the ensuring of peace is the duty of the leadership and the Council of Ministers and parties. Today, struggle for the maintenance of peace is the duty of every Afghan individual. Struggle against the terror of the ruthless extremists, struggle for peace and reconciliation, has become the standard of the healthy reason of every heroic Afghan.

If someone sits in his home and thinks that peace will reach him at home, he is making a great mistake. Peace will never be restored in this way. Struggle and endeavors should be made to implement peace. Each one should pay his due toward this honorable cause. Let us ask ourselves whether we have made all possible efforts for the implementation of peace. I hope every one can answer positively.

I call on all compatriots to enhance their wisdom and reveal (?all actions) of the enemy. Do not allow the blind rockets to destroy the life of the innocent people. I call on the brave Armed Forces of the country to increase their combat wisdom and readiness. You should always be

prepared to give a face-smashing response to the brutal and irreconcilable extremists. The country and the people have confidence in your ability and support you. The heroic defense of Qalat proved that no power can stand before you.

Dear brothers and sisters, once again I congratulate you on the arrival of 'Id al-Adha and wish from God prosperity and happiness for every Afghan family. Success comes from God.

Reportage on Rocket Attacks by 'Extremist Groups'

Casualties in Marawar

LD2207162488 *Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto*
1530 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Text] Elements dependent on the extremist groups fired a surface-to-surface missile on residential houses in Marawar Subdistrict, Konarha Province, yesterday.

The BIA military section reports that, as a result, 7 children and 1 woman were martyred and 14 houses destroyed.

4 Killed, 9 Hurt in Jalalabad

LD2307141688 *Kabul Domestic Service in Dari*
1330 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] At a time when our compatriots are preparing to celebrate the arrival of the auspicious days of 'Id al-Adha, criminal extremists at 1800 yesterday evening fired surface-to-surface missiles on residential areas in the 1st, 4th, 3rd wards, and in the regions of Hada farm and Regay Shomart Khan, Jalalabad city.

The BIA military section reports that 15 missiles were fired at the regions. Four of our compatriots, including a woman, two men, and a child, were martyred, and nine other people were badly injured. Two houses were also completely destroyed. The injured were transported to a hospital by the security forces.

'Reactive Rockets' Hit Kabul

LD2407060088 *Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0443 GMT*
24 Jul 88

[Text] Kabul, July 23, BAKHTAR—Two children were killed and six persons wounded as a result of firing six reactive rockets by the extremists on residential areas in the third, fourth and the eleventh precincts of Kabul city today.

This inhuman deed of the extremists caused partially damage of a number of residential houses and burning of a taxi car.

The health conditions of the injuries are reported satisfactory.

Another Rocket Attack on Kabul

BK2507023488 *Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu*
0200 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] According to reports, one more rocket attack has been carried out on the military installations of the Kabul regime in the capital territory of Kabul. It is reported that the Kabul troops suffered heavy loss of life. Earlier reports had said that the mujahidin are increasing pressure on Kabul.

Armed Forces Capture Rebel Group in Qandahar

LD2407171788 *Kabul Domestic Service in Dari*
1600 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] An armed terrorist extremist group which was engaged in subversive activities in the environs of Arg-handab District, Qandahar Province, was recently dealt shattering blows by the Armed Forces.

A BIA military correspondent reports that as a result of this action by the security forces of Qandahar Province, Lala Jan, ringleader of the group was killed and a quantity of weapons and ammunition of the criminal group, including 140 surface-to-surface missiles, 30 anti-vehicle mines, 1 heavy machinegun, and 1 foodstuff store were seized by the security forces.

According to another report, another armed extremist group, including Sayfoddin, the ringleader of the group, which wanted to disrupt the peaceful life of the local people of Bazar-e Panjva'i District, Qandahar Province, was recently captured, along with their weapons, by the security forces. Similarly Dost Mohammad, one of the extremists engaged in terrorist activities in the Takhteh Pol region, Spin Buldak District, Qandahar Province, was recently captured by the security forces in Qandahar Province, along with 14 other of his criminal members.

Insurgents Claim Control of 'Key Highway'

LD2507120188 *Belgrade TANJUG in English 1105 GMT*
25 Jul 88

[Text] Islamabad, July 25 (TANJUG)—Units of the opponents of the Kabul regime have succeeded in putting under full control a 200-km section of the key highway connecting Kabul and the southern town of Qandahar, claims the insurgent AFGHAN PRESS AGENCY in today's news report.

The battle for Qandahar, the third-largest town in Afghanistan, continued for the past few weeks. Up to now the insurgents claimed to hold the town under siege and that the highway between it and Kabul alone was under control by the Afghan Army. If the agency report is correct, the closing of the road to Kabul—Qandahar's only communication with the north—could substantially change the situation to the advantage of the mujahidin.

The fiercest fighting for control of the highway took place near the military point Makar [placename as received], insurgent sources say. Mujahidin claim they succeeded in hitting an ammunition depot and that the Afghan and Soviet soldiers were later evacuated by helicopters from this crucial point.

Meanwhile, mujahidin leaders in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar have again rejected a peace plan put forward by the UN mediator Diego Cordovez. Under the plan, a ceasefire should be proclaimed in Afghanistan on September 1, to be followed by the formation of a "neutral government of national reconstruction" which would convene the traditional tribal assembly Loya Jirgah.

A leader of the so-called fundamentalist bloc in the alliance the Islamic Unity [Movement] of mujahidin of Afghanistan, 'Abdul Rasul Sayyaf, said that Cordovez's peace plan was "directed against the aims of the jihad (holy war) and the mujahidin." In his assessment, the UN mediator was trying to "divide power between the Soviet and Western agents."

Some of the moderate insurgent leaders, however, have not rejected Cordovez's ideas altogether and have at least expressed readiness to discuss them. But the fundamentalist preponderance over the moderates in the alliance is such that Cordovez's plan on resolving the Afghanistan knot is unlikely to obtain support from the mujahidin leadership.

Note of Protest Handed To UNGOMAP 24 Jul
LD2407193788 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Afghanistan's Foreign Affairs Ministry Liaison Bureau with the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan [UNGOMAP] reported that on [date indistinct], 1988 the 57th note of the Republic of Afghanistan concerning the open violation by Pakistan of Article 2, Document No 1 of the Geneva accords concerning hostile propaganda against the Republic of Afghanistan, was handed over to the office of the delegation in Kabul.

Also in connection with three instances of open violation by the Pakistani side of the articles in Document No 1 of the Geneva accords, Note No 57 [as heard] of the Foreign Affairs Ministry Liaison Bureau with the UNGOMAP was handed to the delegation in Kabul this evening, 24 July 1988. The note demands that the violations be assessed and the Republic of Afghanistan and the UN representative be informed of the results.

India

Golden Temple Head Priest Shot Dead 25 Jul
BK2507084888 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0838 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] Here is a message just received: Our correspondent T.S. Chawla rang up to say a short while ago that the head granthi [priest] of Harmandir Saheb [Golden Temple], Gian Swaran Singh, was shot dead by terrorists in

Guru Nanek Engineering College in Ludhiana this afternoon. Mr Mansingh Ghuman, general secretary of the SGPC, and Mr Bhan Singh, secretary of the SGPC, were seriously injured.

Gandhi on Punjab, Ties With Pakistan, PRC
BK2507035888 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has ruled out any special status for Punjab. In an interview to the editor of the HINDUSTAN TIMES, Mr Gandhi categorically said that the government is not going to extend Article 370 of the Constitution to Punjab or any other state.

In reply to a question, Mr Gandhi rejected the U.S. suggestion that India and Pakistan should sign an agreement giving up options to make nuclear weapons. He said the United States is aware that no pressure can influence India's principled stand on this issue. He said the danger arises from Pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapons program. The prime minister said Pakistan's friends, and especially the United States, have the responsibility to use their influence to prevent Pakistan from making nuclear weapons. He said India's position is very clear and we shall not develop nuclear weapons unless constrained to do so.

Asked whether India is sticking to its position to the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT], the prime minister said the NPT is an international treaty with an universal application. [sentence as heard]

About India's relations with Pakistan, Mr Gandhi said these at present are at a rather low ebb mainly because of their complicity in Punjab. He said Pakistan must stop helping terrorists to improve relations with India.

About China, Mr Gandhi said our relations with that country are good. He said he is planning to visit Beijing before the end of the year to further strengthen bilateral relations.

Mr Gandhi ruled out early parliamentary elections.

On Bofors, the prime minister said he is not worried about this controversy and the charges of corruption are wrong and unfounded.

Gujarat Police Stage Revolt; Troops Sent

'Growing Indiscipline'
BK2407090688 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] The Gujarat chief minister, Mr Amarsinh Choudhary, has appealed to the people of the state to support the measures taken by the government to curb indiscipline in the state police force.

In a message this morning, the chief minister said the government was forced to take stern action because of the growing indiscipline among a section of the police force. He said the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] and the Army have been alerted to ensure that antisocial elements do not take advantage of the situation.

Mr Choudhary sought the people's cooperation to maintain law and order in the state.

Troops Occupy Police Stations

*BK2407103588 Hong Kong AFP in English 1017 GMT
24 Jul 88*

[Text] New Delhi, July 24 (AFP)—Paramilitary forces took control of police stations in western India Sunday after a revolt by the state police force, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

The Gujarat State government, administered by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party, also put Indian Army troops on alert after Chief Minister Amarsinh Chaudhary reported "growing indiscipline" among police.

The paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) assumed command of an unspecified number of police stations in Ahmedabad, the main trading centre, and some towns in the coastal state, which borders Pakistan, the news agency said.

The HINDUSTAN TIMES daily said the Gujarat Government had disarmed the police constabulary, including the state reserve police, and that the revolt was connected to the policemen's refusal to go to Punjab.

More than 1,600 people, including policemen, have died so far this year in northern Punjab, where Sikh militants are waging a bloody separatist campaign.

PTI quoted official sources as saying that Ashok Bhatt, president of the Gujarat Police Union, and "several other erring police personnel" were arrested in a midnight operation on Saturday. Mr Bhatt had urged his colleagues not to go to Punjab, the TIMES said. CRPF personnel who arrested Mr Bhatt in Ahmedabad were attacked with stones by a group of policemen and their families, prompting the union chief to open fire, PTI said. One person was wounded.

The mob later torched a civilian jeep parked outside a police station at the arrest site and stoned fire brigade employees summoned to the spot. The violence led to a tense situation at Naroda area, on the outskirts of the city, where police were reported on strike, PTI said.

However, the state and city police control rooms were "very much" under police control, a police spokesman told PTI. He declined to give details.

Earlier Sunday, Mr Chaudhary made a surprise announcement over state-run television that the army had been put on alert after the government took punitive action against "erring members" of the union. He said there was "growing indiscipline" among a section of the police and asked the people to cooperate with the government in maintaining law and order.

"Only a group of notorious elements posing as leaders of the police force is determined to destroy discipline, sabotage administration and create chaotic conditions in the state," the TIMES quoted an official spokesman as saying. The spokesman, in a briefing to a news agency, added that the police had "created an unprecedented situation by openly defying the authority and engaging in criminal activities of subversion."

Unrest among Gujarat policemen was first reported in 1979, spurring the government to allow them to have a union. They revolted again in 1985, when they were accused of burning down two newspapers, and last year, when they deserted several police stations during a Hindu religious procession.

Police Forces Disarmed

*BK2407160588 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 24 Jul 88*

[Text] The Gujarat Government has disarmed the state police force and several police officials have been arrested to curb the gross indiscipline.

The state chief minister, Mr Amarsinh Choudhary, told newsmen in Gandhinagar this evening that 34 armories in the state have been taken over by the central forces. The network of wireless, control rooms and the fleet of vehicles is now being manned by the central forces. Fifty-four police officials have been dismissed for offenses.

The chief minister said the recognition of four police employees' unions has been suspended for indiscipline.

In Ahmedabad, six police stations have been completely put under the charge of the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] as policemen deserted the stations misled by some rumors.

The chief minister said the CRPF were twice forced to resort to firing in the Naroda area in the city to disperse a violent crowd which stoned the police party, which had gone there to arrest some of the union leaders. Two persons were injured in the firing.

Mr Choudhary said central forces have been deployed at all the strategic points throughout the state. Flag marches were carried out by the army today in several areas of Ahmedabad, Rajkot and Baroda.

The chief minister said that law and order all over the state is under control.

Troops Deployed in Towns

*BK2507025288 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 25 Jul 88*

[Text] In Gujarat, paramilitary forces have been deployed in major towns to curb indiscipline among the state police. Army carried out patrolling in the sensitive areas of Ahmedabad. An official spokesman told our Ahmedabad correspondent this morning that the situation all over the state is peaceful and normal.

No untoward incident has been reported since last night. Attendance of constables and head constables in police stations has shown improvement. However, in Ahmedabad some more police stations have been deserted. Six police stations in the city have been completely put under the charge of the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force]. The police union leader, Mr Ashok Bhatt, who was arrested yesterday was released last night.

'Sensitive Areas' in Ahmedabad

*BK2507081188 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 25 Jul 88*

[Text] The attendance in all police stations in Gujarat except in Ahmedabad is almost total today. In Ahmedabad, however, the attendance has been affected. The overall situation continues to be under control. According to a government spokesman some minor incidents were reported in Ahmedabad last night. He said morning 'Id prayers passed off peacefully in the city. The Army continues to patrol the sensitive areas in Ahmedabad.

17 Killed in Punjab, 14 'Terrorists' Arrested

*BK2207160288 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 22 Jul 88*

[Excerpts] In Punjab, 17 persons have been killed in separate incidents of terrorist violence since last night. [passage omitted]

Terrorists made two abortive attempts on BSF [Border Security Force] patrol parties. They laid a crude mine-type device near Maroor village in Gurdaspur District which exploded minutes before a BSF party was to pass the spot. They also lobbed hand grenades and sprayed automatic gunfire on a second BSF party in the same area.

Fourteen terrorists were arrested during raids on their hideouts today. A large quantity of arms and ammunition was recovered from them.

Three 'Terrorists' Killed

*BK2307075188 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 23 Jul 88*

[Text] In Punjab, three persons were gunned down by terrorists in separate incidents, while security forces killed three terrorists in two encounters last night.

In Jullundur District, terrorists killed two brothers in village Rurthakalam. In another incident in the district, a school teacher was gunned down and a woman seriously injured in village Dalli. Security forces killed two terrorists in an encounter in Nurmahal area in Jullundur District, following a raid at a hideout of the terrorists. In another encounter, one terrorist was killed in an exchange of fire with the CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] patrol party in Tarn Taran.

10 Arrested; 1 Killed

*BK2407091988 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 24 Jul 88*

[Text] In Punjab, 10 terrorists have been arrested and 1 killed since last night. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh today that one terrorist was killed in an encounter with the security forces in Kandu Khera in Faridkot District this morning. Four others were arrested.

In Ferozepore District, six terrorists were arrested last night during a nakabandi [picketing]. Meanwhile, terrorists gunned down one person in (Gadsal) village in Amritsar District.

New Gurkha Violence Reported From Darjeeling

*BK2307034188 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 23 Jul 88*

[Text] Darjeeling hill areas of West Bengal witnessed fresh violence last night, even as the GNLF [Gurkha National Liberation Front] chief, Mr Subhash Ghisingh, and the chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, got ready for talks with the home minister, Mr Buta Singh, in New Delhi on Monday.

A CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] patrol party was ambushed at (Laus Bazaar) in the Kalimpong subdivision last night. A forest range officer was shot dead in Jalpaiguri District.

According to the state home secretary, all GNLF activists, except those detained under the Antiterrorist Act, have been released.

Iran

Khomeyni Receives IRGC Youths, Jamaran Residents

*LD2507110488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 25 Jul 88*

[Excerpt] On the occasion of 'Id al-Adha a group of youths serving with the IRGC and the mobilization forces, and who are to be sent to the fronts, together with a group of Jamaran residents, were received by Imam Khomeyni at his Jamaran residence this morning.

At the meeting, Emami-Jamarani, the representative of the imam and supervisor of the Hajj, Religious Bequests, and Endowments, Organization, declared the selfless youths obedience to the decrees of the imam of the ummah.

Later, Imam Khomeyni responded to the expressions of feelings by the audience. [passage omitted]

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayers Sermons

First Sermon on Hajj

LD2207181488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1230 GMT 22 Jul 88

[First Friday prayers sermon delivered by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i at Tehran University on 22 July—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] These days, there are two basic, importance issues facing our nation and society, Muslim peoples all over the world, and as well as wise men from every nation in the world. The first is the issue of the hajj, the special circumstances surrounding this year's hajj, what happened during last year's hajj, and this extremely strange point in the history of the holy house of God. The other issue is related to the war—Iran's acceptance of Resolution No 598—and the numerous incidents that have occurred or will occur in connection with the two issues. These two importance issues will be discussed in the two sermons today. The issue of the hajj will be discussed in the first sermon and the issue of the resolution in the second sermon.

Of course, to do justice to the issue, we really should discuss the lengthy, plaintive, unique, despondent, and historical message of our dear leader and imam. Truly this message was one of the greatest miracles of this revolution. As you have all felt, it was effective and heart-warming, it penetrated the depth of our revolutionary nation's soul and played music on its heart strings. And this is just the beginning. This message is a golden tablet that cannot be erased. It will remain forever over the archway of this revolution and upon the forehead of this great Islamic system. Every word and sentence of this message is a welcome raindrop that will satiate the mouths of the eager and the lives of the devoted. It is truly a sign that our imam, that true son of God's regent and prophet, receives divine inspiration. It is an extraordinary force created by God Almighty as the backbone of the revolution.

Unfortunately, time is short, otherwise one could speak for hours in praise of this message and spend a lifetime analyzing it. Our brothers within and outside the Majlis said the message should become law. That is correct, but even more than that, this message should become our society's culture. There are laws that are not in the hearts of the people, but on the tips of their pens, the (?subjects of gossip), but a society's culture is that clear road on which society travels. This message should be repeated many times. It should be broadcast on the streets and platforms. It should be explained. Books containing this message should be read aloud by fathers, mothers, and family elders to others in their households. This message should stay in the people's hearts, minds, and mouths

until it becomes the fixed culture of our nation and the irrevocable culture of our revolution. This message and last year's hajj message are a complete work that should fill the life of this nation.

Today, I will briefly refer to this message. The short time allotted to the sermons really allows for no more than a few remarks. Of course, one could read a list of its contents, but when I read the message carefully, I realized that a list of the chapters and points the imam has mentioned in this message is so long that even mentioning the titles would require a long time. Today, I will recount some of the points in the message. Of course, I cannot claim that they are the most important points in the message.

The first issue, the first axis of the message, is the issue of the hajj and hajj philosophy. Muslims have not understood the hajj, just as they have not understood the Koran. Muslims presumed hajj consisted of actions and words, but did not understand the hajj spirit; they did not feel this spirit. Therefore, years and centuries of the hajj went by without those dear ceremonies being the scene of a great spectacle in which Muslims could view their own interests. [passage omitted] Walking around the house of God demonstrates the concentrated and uniform movement of Muslims around the axis of God, denies the existence of any other god, concentrates all the actions and inactions of the Islamic ummah on God. It demonstrates the struggle for sincerity and purity, which dictates and teaches Muslims about a perpetual striving. The throwing of stones [reference to a part of the hajj ceremonies in which stone are thrown at a stone representing the devil] reminds Muslims of the existence of the satans of wealth and power and of the struggle against these satans, the stops at 'Arafat, Mash'ar, and Mena [stages of the hajj ceremony] reveal to all eyes the great spectacle of the congregation of Muslims and, in a way, the great power of the Islamic ummah and their concentrated energy. The making of sacrifices on 10 Dhu al-Hijjah [25 July] teaches Muslims about the need to make sacrifices and to forego goods and life.

Muslims had completely forgotten these any many other meanings and philosophies of the hajj. The hajj had become a touristic pilgrimage, or a commercial-tourism trip. The hajj was unable to familiarize Muslims with their greatness and honor. Hajj stewards only wanted the Muslims to come and throw them their money, and possibly listen to their unjust, poisonous words, and then go away. Islam, the Islamic Revolution, and the renewal of Islamic vitality returned to the hajj its spirit. It revealed the truth of the hajj. It showed the Muslims of the world how a nation, with its sacrifices and its united struggle, can make its loud cry from the highest tower in the world and, in the midst of the universal congregation of the world's Muslims, overcome the discordant shout of Taqut [a perjorative term used for opponents of the Iranian regime] and bring the truth to their ears. That is the first point of the imam's message. Muslims must know that the hajj, a mandatory action upon which great stress has been placed and for which people throughout

the Islamic world spend money and endure hardship in order to attend, is not just for the sake of a series of dry and spiritless actions, but for the sake of truth, understanding, learning, meeting one another, and finding honor. It is an experience, an exercise in the creation of the great Islamic ummah without any differences.

Another point about that hajj which can be seen in the imam's great message is the effect of the pilgrimage of the devoted Iranian Muslims in awakening Muslims in other parts of the world. The imam has laid stress on the point that you, the revolutionary nation, who have undertaken nine pilgrimages since the victory of the revolution—pilgrimages that fulfill the specifications of the full Islamic hajj—have benefited from that act and have come closer to your goals. You have further awakened wakeful souls. You have disturbed the deadly sleep of sleeping Muslims.

Your thunderous cry of "God is great" succeeded in awakening the Muslims and frightening the enemy of Islam and of the Muslims. It was you, with your shouts of "God is great" who bestowed the fruit of resistance and the olive of light and hope upon the Muslim nation of Palestine. It was you who proved the uselessness and barrenness of the old, rotten trees of politics on the stages of life of the Palestinians. It was you who caused the golden star of Palestine to shine from the neither-East-nor-West Islamic philosophy of your revolution. With your pilgrimages during these years, particularly in last year's pilgrimage in which you combined your hajj with holy war and in which you colored the historic Islamic territory with your pure blood, you succeeded in shaking the Islamic world's conscience. [crowd chants]

This year, too, your vacant place will have the same effect as your strong presence did in previous years. Today, the awake hearts and bright eyes of Muslims in the house of God will sense the loss of 200,000 Iranian pilgrims. This year the house of God will be empty of your devoted cry of "God is great." his year, the echo of the disavowal of infidels will not be heard in the streets of Mecca and Al-Madinah, and in that land of Islamic memories. This year, the world's Muslim people will not hear the sad and devoted whisper of your Kumayl prayers [Thursday evening's prayer of mourning] beside Baqi [a mosque]. The gates of the prophet's Al-Madinah were shut against the prophet's ummah. They shut the house of God to his pure servants, but your innocence and vacant place will have the same effect this year as your thunderous shouts did in previous years. That was the second point of the imam's message.

Another point of the message notes the glorious resistance of the Iranian nation. The imam turned his view from the hajj to Islamic Iran, seeing the great nation that reached the summit of global resistance and history. He reminded the nation of this by recording it for history. Have you ever thought that since the beginning of the revolution many pressures have been exerted against you and you have resisted all of them with your heads held

high, upright, and with your fists clenched, calling out your far-reaching cries? [passage omitted] This ummah is a blessing for this imam and the imam is a blessing for the ummah. [crowd chants]

The imam spoke very highly of this issue. Addressing Muslims throughout the world, he called on them to drag themselves from the quagmire of silence and stagnation, and asserted that Muslims of the world must not be afraid of death not succumb in the face of the pressures and oppression imposed by the powers of the East and West.

Recalling to mind the greatness and the inherent honor of the world's Muslims because Islam is another point in the imam's call, the world's Muslims hear his cries. [passage omitted] Our beloved imam told the world's Muslims that until the day the balance of power in the world is changed in favor of the Muslims and until the day the unjust division of the world into arrogant powers and the oppressed—unfortunately, the Muslim nation happens to be on the oppressed side—is uprooted, the Muslims should always expect to witness the interests of aliens and enemies defeating their own interests. Muslims must themselves tip the present imbalance in their favor by employing the power and force God has given them in the heart of Islam. They must realize that while (?profiteering), mercenary, dependent, and subservient rulers continue to rule their societies, the balance of power will not change in favor of the Muslims, and that the Muslims will be weakened daily.

The world's Muslims must know that as long as infidel, mercenary, dependent, and servile leaders are ruling their societies, the balance of forces will never change in favor of Muslims. There is an important section about the Muslim world in the message. Another important section concerns our own country's domestic affairs and our own society. In our domestic affairs the most important and fundamental issue stressed by the imam is the issue of social justice and the destruction of the divisions between poverty and wealth in the horrendous forms that they have taken in society as a result of our enemies. Unfortunately, these divisions still persist to a great extent.

Social justice means there should be no poor people in society. It means that the blessings and good things of society must not be used only for the benefit of one section of the people to the detriment of the absolute majority of the people. Social justice means that in an Islamic society, large sections of the people must be able to use and to benefit from all the blessings that exist in society so that their talents may blossom.

The deprived and barefooted ones have the special attention of the imam of the ummah. They are the real and true army of the revolution. They are the ones who throughout the course of history have stood behind the prophets. They are the ones who have been presented by the enemies and opponents of the prophets as the ignoble

ones, that is, the lower classes, but the honorable and divine prophets knew them to belong to their divine movements and the prophets' efforts were for their sake.

Social justice means that which has been presented in the Koran as the goal of the arrival of the prophets and of the prophets' mission. [passage omitted] The coming of the prophets aimed at creating social justice in society. The prophets came so that the bullies of society, the freeloaders, the cruel ones in society, the exploiters, the comfortable ones without any care or trouble would be put in their place and so that the oppressed, the deprived, the barefooted ones would be given their rights. That must be the main goal of the revolution. It must be placed at the head of affairs in laws, in actions, in the behavior of officials toward the people, in the establishment of social values, in words, in publicity.

If social justice does not exist in a society the highest aim of religion, that is, human development, will not be attained by any means at a universal social level and the great distinction and quality of an Islamic society as opposed to a Taquti society is precisely that. An Islamic society is a society in which there are no signs of discrimination, cruelty, or inequality; in which there is no fear, no deprivation. We must strive. In the years since the revolution global arrogance and its lackies and mercenaries have delayed us by bringing up many distractions.

During these 10 years we should have advanced a great deal more in this field. This is a very important message. What merits incorporation as law, what needs to be expressed in the law, and what needs to be reflected in the words, deeds, executive affairs, and in the life style—particularly the life style of the authorities of the country—is this very point. The imam once again repeats his fierce attack on the well-to-do of society who lack feelings—those who are ignorant of and indifferent to the pains of society. [passage omitted] These must be reflected and consolidated in all our executive and judicial affairs—the painful message of the imam of ummah.

Another point which the imam stresses is the danger of seeking comfort. Seeking comfort is not a danger particular to those who have been recognized as the well-to-do of society, who feel no pains and have no feelings. Those whose heart is with the revolution must also safeguard themselves against the danger of the pleasure and comfort-seeking satan. [passage omitted] And this also refers to us, the responsible authorities. We must take a great deal of care not to fall prey to pleasure-seeking. [passage omitted]

The other point among domestic issues to which the imam paid attention—raising it in a fatherly and gentle manner—is the danger of the untrue and fabricated war, the war fabricated by the enemy, between two sects of soldiers of the revolution, with one side accusing the other of ideological pollution and of moving to the left while the other accuses the latter of reaction and of moving to U.S. Islam. This is a dangerous, dirty, and untrue war which the enemy has

fabricated. Be careful. In his message the imam has recommended to us, to the clerics, to pay attention to our duties and also pay attention to the youth, not to frighten them away. He told us not to magnify the doubts in the minds of the youth nor the ambiguities in their minds. We should not create a situation which forces them to turn away from us, nor to make such things a pretext for rejecting the youth.

He also told the youth to understand that the clergy makes up the nucleus on which the survival of Islam depends. Those who have tried for many years to establish Islam without the clergy are traitors. Or else they do not know. They do not want Islam; not the Islam without the clergy [as heard], committed, pious, devout, and struggling clergy and sympathetic and Islamic ulama, who are referred to by the imam in this message, when he says: Whenever I defend the clergy, I am defending them, not others. They are (?the guides) of the young people who should take note of them and refer to them. It was a comprehensive and complete message.

He encouraged the young people to get involved in scientific and practical pursuits. Scientific movement—to review the scientific issues of life; and practical movement—that is, to be engaged in holy war and martyrdom. Science and action together, on the part of the country's young people, would become a giant step for the continuation of this great revolution toward its goals.

This is just a short summary of the imam's message. If we really were to do justice to this message and honor it, we should repeat it, say it, think it, teach it, learn it, until it becomes society's culture. We should give it sincere treatment.

At the end of this sermon, I cannot fail to honor once more the memory of last year's innocent martyrs. The hajj martyrs truly were innocent. Those 200-odd women who were killed were innocent. The innocent Iranian pilgrims were beaten up in the house of God and in front of other pilgrims. What the U.S. lackeys and the enemies of Islam did to those pious, sincere, and devoted Muslims last year was unprecedented in history. They made God's safe shrine unsafe. They drove away pilgrims from the house of God. On the eve of the hajj ceremonies, they deprived from the hajj those loving hearts who were eager to go on the hajj. God knows how many years they had waited to go to the house of God and (?pay homage to it). They now are with God.

It was a great tragedy. This incident is unforgettable. O God, you know that since last year, from the moment I heard the news until this very minute, my heart is filled with great and endless sorrow whenever I mention this incident. [passage omitted] Our enemies turned that celebration into mourning last year. They turned joy to sadness and sorrow. I believe this incident must go down in history: That great martyrdom should be bound in the depths of society with an emotional bond. Apart from the political words and analyses, which are necessary and beneficial in their own place, the emotional aspect of the

matter must not be forgotten. I have decided to hold eulogies in the memory of those dear ones. God willing. I will continue that eulogy. Every year from the night of 6 Dhu al-Hijjah until the 9th, [in 1988: 21-24 July], we will gather together in the memory of those dear ones. I recommend that others should do so as well. In mosques and in houses, let the memory of that bravery and victimization, of that hajj and holy war, of that bloodshed in the land of Mecca by the house of God remain in our history. Let future generations know how this nation struggled and how brave it was. I hope that the exalted God will bestow a blessing upon all that blood, that He will place such honor and greatness for Muslims in those martyrdoms that the enemies of Islam will regret their actions, God willing. [passage omitted]

Second Sermon on UN Resolution

LD2207215188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1314 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Second Friday prayers sermon delivered by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i at Tehran University on 22 July—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] The main issue I will raise in this sermon today is the matter relating to acceptance of Security Council Resolution No 598. [Passage omitted]

There are important issues relating to that resolution. Bearing in mind the time limitation, I will refer, in a condensed fashion, to the most important ones. First, it must be known that this issue, the acceptance of the resolution, is one of the very important developments in the history of the revolution, whether the acceptance of the resolution leads to a cease-fire and the ending of the war, or whether, through the enemy's wickedness, excuses, and war-mongering, it does not lead to the ending of the war. In any case, this action is one of the most important incidents, one of the most important actions, and one of the most important trials in the history of our revolution. It has revealed many things and many beautiful truths about our revolution, things which, were it for not such experiences, would not be seen so clearly: the bravery of the country's leadership and the leadership of the revolution; that spiritual power and firmness, that moral and spiritual courage which, in one moment, adopts a position for the sake of the interests of Islam and Muslims in such a way that the world is astounded in the face of that action. That courage is higher than bravery in war. This is that moral and spiritual courage that very few people, even the notable personalities of the world, have been able to show to such courage in their actions and behavior.

It reveals the attachment of the leader and his ummah to Islam, to Muslims, and to Islamic interests in such a way that when the interests of Islam demand—and I will say something briefly about this later—when the interest of Islam are involved, suddenly they adopt a position which, on the surface, is completely different from their

previous position because that is what Islam demands, because the interests of the revolution, the country, and the nation demand it. In other words, they lose themselves entirely in the interests of Islam and Muslims.

Another beautiful point that also was revealed was the strong unity and link between the people and the imam. As soon as it became clear that the approval of the imam and the decision of the imam supported this matter, suddenly this same nation that had clenched its fists and shouted "War" said: Dear Imam, we have heard your message and we surrender ourselves to your message. [crowd chants]

This obedience of the ummah and an awake ummah at that, an ummah, a nation whose young and old are political... [changes thought] Our people are not an unaware people. There are nations who do not even know what is going on in the world, in their own country, what is government, what is war, what is peace. Well, in the case of such nations, it does not matter if they move in any direction in which their leaders and elders move. Our nation is not that kind of nation. I do not think there is any nation in the world today which has a political intelligence, a political understanding, and a capacity for political analysis to the extent our nation does.

In towns and villages, men, women, and children of various classes all are familiar with the issues of the country, the government, the officials, the world, United States, Israel, the USSR, enmities, friendships, taking sides, the United Nations, the Security Council. It is an aware, clear, determining, objecting, informed, resolute nation, which if it does not accept the views of the officials in several cases, says so. This conscious, alert, political, aware, resolute nation faces its leader faithfully and obediently. This shows the absolute unity between the imam and the ummah. [passage omitted]

More importantly, in my view, are our armed forces: the IRGC, with so much verve and enthusiasm, and the Army, with its lengthy presence on the battlefields. The armed forces usually want to continue the war. They want to flex their muscles; they want to demonstrate their strength and might to the enemy and defeat it, but our armed forces, our IRGC and Army, obeyed because it was the imam's order. This is an extremely glorious and great phenomenon.

In reply to the imam, the IRGC commander and the chief of the Joint Staff wrote: O Imam, we accept your command, although we know that by nature the armed forces seek war and aggression. That revolutionary verve, that military spirit of the armed forces makes them want to go to the battlefield, to show themselves, and defeat the enemy. However, because the imam has willed it, because the imam has considered it beneficial and advantageous, they have therefore endorsed the views of the authorities, taken this step, and decided to obey. This was one of the most interesting points demonstrated at this juncture.

Well, another point is that this event aroused various analyses in the world. Some people gave an economic analysis; they said that economic necessities brought Iran to this position. Some offered a military analysis, some a political analysis. Each said one thing. The truth is that since the beginning of the revolution, our enemies have never been able to come up with and deliver a correct and realistic analysis of any event, including this one.

I will tell you that in relation to what actually happened, the world's analyses were either incomplete or lies from top to bottom. Those were not the correct analyses; those were not the issues. I will tell you what the issue is in a concise fashion, in one sentence. I will tell you that sentence. That sentence is this: The authorities of the system judged, and the dear and eminent imam approved the judgment, that today the acceptance of the resolution is in the interests of Islam, of the revolution, and of the country. How is it in our interest? What factors exist and what events have occurred that make the acceptance of the resolution in the interest of the revolution today? Everyone is hungry and eager to know the factors and events to which the imam referred in his message. I know those factors and events very well, and I can tell you what they are. There is nothing in those factors and events which cannot be told to the people. I will tell you that with strength and conviction.

If we tell you, dear nation, about those factors and events to which the imam referred, it is certain that your great force will be put into action to a greater extent and it will do what it must do at this stage. The entire Iranian nation, apart from the few people who are traitors and mercenaries for foreigners, the type that can be found in this or that corner, apart from them the entire Iranian nation is part of the family and they can be told about these factors and events. Of course, while you are part of the family and are hearing about these matters from me, other ears will, unfortunately, hear those things as well.

If we could find an environment or create an environment in which what was said to you and that which the Iranian nation is entitled to hear could be heard by the Iranian nation alone without the enemy finding out about it, if we were able to find such an environment, have no doubts that I and the other authorities would tell you every single one of these factors and events and we would undoubtedly gain everyone's approval. But what can we do? Whatever is said to you will also be heard by the enemy. He who is not part of the family and who is a traitor must not hear it. We do not want our enemy to hear about the secrets of our revolution and the secrets of our country. Therefore, he will not hear them.

Some people may think: Maybe we are not part of the family. No, you are part of the family; you are one of us. The matter concerns you yourself. We who are making the decisions are working for you. It is because you have trusted us that we are doing things in your interests as we judge them and in accordance with shari'a commands and shari'a duties. How could you not be part of the

family? You are part of the family; the enemy is not. The ear that must not hear things will learn about your secrets. Therefore, this is not the time for it and things must not be said. Just as the imam has graciously said: God willing, the day will come—and that day is not long coming, much sooner than that, God willing—when we can explain to the people and tell them the reasons and analyze for them the factors and events. Then it will become clear. What must be understood today is that what has been decided is not a turning away from our principled slogans in any way.

The enemy cannot accuse us at this point of turning away from our principles. The Islamic Revolution and its honorable leadership and the authorities of this revolution and this system will defend the principles of the Islamic Revolution and its uncompromising spirit with respect to the superpowers and the arrogants of the world with every particle of their existence and during every moment of their life. [passage omitted]

Well, I now will describe briefly the issue of the resolution, although you already are familiar with it. Resolution No 598 was approved by the Security Council about a year ago, and it contains several clauses, perhaps 10 clauses. The first clause is the cease-fire. Following the cease-fire a series of other deeds will follow, including withdrawing to internationally recognized borders, including guaranteeing the tranquillity of the border, determining the aggressor—the one who started the war—including reconstruction, restoration of tranquillity in the region, and so on. These are in Resolution No 598 which we, in the past due to reasons which we have explained earlier, did not accept but now due to the same interests to which we referred, we have accepted. And the first step is the cease-fire. The UN secretary general must undertake to effect the cease-fire and it is he who will perform this task. This is the issue of the resolution.

We have said that we accept this resolution. Of course, acceptance of the resolution does not mean that as soon as it is accepted the cease-fire will be established. No, this depends on the efforts of the UN secretary general who will have to exercise much motivation, determination, and power so that the cease-fire may be implemented. And there are other tasks after the cease-fire which have been foreseen in the resolution.

This is the issue of the resolution and its relevance to the United Nations and to the Security Council. I must explain several points with regard to the resolution. One problem is that up to this hour Iraq has not confronted this issue in a sincere manner. The world must know this. We are declaring this. The Iraqi part is resorting to excuses. These excuses by Iraq may delay the task or may lead to the cease-fire not being achieved and to the war being continued. However, it exposes the warmongering, aggressive, and mischievous face of Saddam Husayn. The world will learn of it. If these excuses continue the world will learn of it even more. And the point which we have been making during this period will be proved. We said from the beginning that the nature of

the Iraqi regime and of these Aflaqi Ba'thists who hold the power is that of warmongering. Now during these past few days they have resorted to several excuses. One of these is that they do not want a cease-fire; they want peace. This is what Saddam has declared and what he has told Mr Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi who last night informed me of this by telephone, that Saddam Husayn says he does not want a cease-fire, he wants peace. I told Al-Qadhdhafi that if there is to be any peace it must begin with a cease-fire. A peace without a cease-fire is meaningless. If he does not really intend to resort to excuses to delay the cease-fire then this is an illogical, wrong, and unacceptable statement.

We want the implementation of all the clauses of the resolution and not only that of the cease-fire. We are not eager for the cease-fire; the resolution in all its clauses must be implemented. The way to do this is through the secretary general of the United Nations. We have said this and last night we repeated this to Al-Qadhdhafi and said that the same logical and legal path must be followed. We will not be prepared to accept anything else. The UN secretary general is beginning to carry out the task and his political moves. Of course, this task must be carried out with utmost speed so that this warmongering enemy who resorts to excuses may not find an opportunity for resorting further to excuses.

It is an excuse to say that they want peace and not a cease-fire. Well, a cease-fire is the preface to peace. They used to say that Iran is resorting to tactical moves. The imam said no, this is not a tactical move but a real and sincere move. [passage omitted]

Another excuse they continue to mention is their intention to hold direct talks with Iran. In our view this is another excuse and an escape from the burden of duty of the sides at this juncture. They are trying to avoid these duties. Naturally, direct talks will come in their own time, when the task requires that direct talks are held. This is not an extra condition for one side to ask for direct talks. Under the present circumstances the secretary general is the mediator, must act accordingly, and must pursue the issue. It is possible that in the course of the venture, direct talks may be achieved. A number of officials from the two sides will gather and hold talks.

This is an act of searching for excuses and making pretexts. This is aimed at delaying the task. Therefore, up to this moment we have seen in our enemy signs of insincerity, of making excuses, of warmongering, and aggressive tendencies. We have seen the same before and we have repeatedly commented on this. Today the world sees the enemy for itself. We insist that the world looks at these excuses and comprehends the truth behind them. The second point is that we wish to make it clear to our people that the possibility exists for Iraq to continue fanning the flames using the above acts of excuse-making. In this case, its real intentions will be exposed, of course. However, the people of Iran must be careful. The people must be vigilant and our forces be in total readiness. The forces at the battlefronts must maintain

total preparedness, vigilance, and watchfulness and be aware of the enemy plots and trickery while our forces perform their task of protecting the frontiers and their own positions. The general public, too, must continue the trend of going to the fronts with the same firmness and conviction. Our fresh, prepared, and mighty forces must be ready in case the enemy tries to play its tricks so that they can respond with a timely and opportune blow to the enemy. [crowd chants]

Another point I must make is that a group of hypocritical, two-faced, and evil persons may appear in the country, supported by the foreign propaganda, who may try to break our national pride. They may try to make our nation believe that acceptance of the resolution has hurt our national pride. They may try to use words and actions to hurt the pride of this great and resisting nation. I would like to tell you that in the past few days we have firmly and decisively told the foreign negotiators that the pride of our nation today is stronger, greater, and more soaring than before. Our nation is that nation which, for 8 long years, has withstood and resisted without assistance from any power or state and without reliance on any support except its own existence and its God, against an enemy regime which was aided and which received injections of assistance. It has blocked the destructive raids of the enemy and defended its country, people, frontiers, and its revolution. There is no other entity higher than this. What you, the great nation, have done in the past 8 years is the source of an unbounded source of national pride which does not run out. It is no joke carrying on with the war, and such a war at that. Eight years of resistance and sacred defense. Do you know what would have happened if you did not conduct your sacred defense? Do you know what the East and the West wished for the country and for the revolution had there not been selfless combat by our nation and our youth? [passage omitted]

Our martyrs could preserve with their blood the greatest Islamic achievement since early Islamic history. Now, a handful of enemy braggards and a group of foolish stooges appear here and there to say that the blood of the martyrs was wasted. The martyrs preserved Islam and the revolution with their sacrifices and blood. [passage omitted]

Our IRGC, armed forces, and our mobilization forces could protect the lofty status of our nation while the nation supported its armed forces by putting on the battle dress. This is the biggest source of national pride.

Another point I should add is that some opportunist and malevolent individuals who have never agreed with the revolution and Islam are taking full advantage of the situation to make trouble. These individuals were against the war right from the start. Now they are commenting on the piety of Hezbollahi, combatant, sincere, and devoted people. They say: I told you so. That is very stupid. [passage omitted]

Those who did not take part in the greatest saga of this nation over the past few years will be disgraced forever. [chanting from crowd]

This great experience of the nation has disgraced a group of people forever. It also has made another group of people proud forever. Those who for 8 years witnessed the bloody experience of this nation without leaving their comfortable lairs will be disgraced forever. Those who saw the great knowledge of this nation and used it to fill their own pockets will be disgraced forever. They should not think that the acceptance of the resolution justified their comments. Their comments will always be a mark of shame. Those who watched the pure and innocent youth of this nation go to war and get wounded and who were not prepared to take a step in that direction have missed their chance for good and will be disgraced forever. These are the disgraced.

There is another group who will be proud forever: Those who answered the call of the imam and the revolution, who went to the trenches whenever they were needed, who did not let Islam and the revolution become estranged, who were martyred or wounded, who gave their possessions and time, and who made suitable efforts at every juncture. They all will be proud throughout our history. [chanting from crowd] [passage omitted]

Montazeri Calls For Allegiance to Imam

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1030 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Message from Ayatollah Montazeri to nation issued on 23 July—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] These days our great revolution has entered a new and sensitive phase. These days both the friends and foes of the revolution throughout the world have fixed their eyes on our revolution from various angles. They are waiting to see how a young revolution, engulfed by world plots, is confronting the problems and consequences of the war and the global economic-political-military pressures of force and deception after sustaining 8 years of a destructive, imposed war. They are also watching how it safeguards itself and its Islamic and revolutionary values, and how it steers its course through the storms to safe haven.

There are many facts and issues in this connection, the important parts of which have been explained in the historical and important message of his holiness the imam. [passage omitted] I will briefly deal with some affairs in connection with the decisive and courageous decision of the leader of the revolution about the acceptance of the cease-fire, as well as other important and constructive positions adopted by him.

1. The divine blessings, the spiritual position, the spiritual and mental capacity, ethical and scientific degrees, the struggles and crusades, and the unique part played by

the leader in changing the course of Islam and the Muslims, in particular the history of the Muslim nation of Iran in this century, his unique role in bringing victory to the Islamic Revolution in Iran, and in continuing and preserving the revolution from the danger of collapse or perversion to the right or left shall not remain hidden to anybody. No one can anybody doubt it. Because of these aspects the conscious Iranian nation has pledged allegiance to its imam since the beginning of the struggle. It has made a pact with him to obey and emulate him, choosing him as the source of emulation and the vice-regent, and the source of emulation in its mental and practical affairs.

Our nation pledged allegiance to its imam at a time when all the intellectual and struggling individuals and sides, from all groups and societies, had reached a deadlock in their struggles. And the Taghut [reference to the shah] regime, dependent on the United States, left no opportunity for the slightest move or liberties. [passage omitted]

With full knowledge our nation believes that all the moves and uprisings of our revolutionary leader, whether before or after victory, and during the several years of the imposed war, during all phases, has been motivated for the satisfaction of God and in the interests of Islam, the revolution, and the Iranian nation. And they continue to be so.

If yesterday his holiness the imam invited the nation to take part comprehensively in a sacred defense to repel aggression in the imposed war, it was motivated for the sake of God and to preserve the revolution, the country, and the regime. And now if he, for some reason, invites the nation to accept the cease-fire, that too is in the interests of Islam, the revolution, and the country. It is due to such mutual faith and conviction that the imam always and at all stages shares with the ummah the bitterness and the sweetness and the same voice. And the ummah too finds itself committed to obey and follow the imam's orders.

Of course, the enemies of Islam and the revolution may intend to abuse this brave change of position and decision by the leader of the revolution with regard to accepting the suggested resolution. They try to misuse it in an effort to achieve their filthy objectives and to weaken the position of the vice regency [velayat-e faqih] and the source of Shi'a emulation. They may cleverly insinuate doubts and issues in the minds of the simple-hearted people. However, it is the duty of all well-informed forces who are faithful and committed to Islam and the revolution not to allow this mysterious plot to succeed. I do not believe our well-informed and brave nation would allow ill-intentioned people to embark on such mischief. I am sure that our nation, following the great prophet—peace be on him and his scion—as well as the immaculate imams—peace be upon them who differentiate right from wrong, who have chosen the right path, and who have so far emerged proud from many trials and afflictions—will in this great divine trial and present affliction continue decisively on the path. With full knowledge,

following their imam and the source of emulation, they will continue to carry out the revolution, will be prepared to repel any likely aggression, and will be present on the necessary and revolutionary scenes.

2. His eminence the imam, may his shadow extend, with great spirit, human nobility, and graciousness, has displayed modesty and humility before the nation and has, despite his inner inclination, made a bitter decision. Nevertheless, the graciousness, humility, honesty, and sincerity of the gracious leader should not lead to forgetfulness and negligence of the roots and principled issues and pride by the honorable authorities.

We must speak without restraint and with sincerity to our people, just as he did, and we must inform them about the realities. The secret of the nation's trust in their leader lies precisely in his honesty and sincerity. The imam, with his special inner purity and humility, has taken on responsibility for all matters and has brought his own honor to the forefront and has expressed his regret before the nation. However, our nation never wanted or wished that these circumstances in which his eminence would be forced to accept and to endure such bitterness and unhappiness should occur. Of course, just as the imam himself said, today is not the time for whys, should have beens, and should not have beens; what he said is right.

Today, all forces and groups and the entire Iranian nation must unite in order to put this sensitive and dangerous stage victoriously behind them. However, the imam himself will certainly and undoubtedly command that at a suitable and appropriate time an examination and investigation should take place into the reasons behind the existence of these bitter and unfortunate circumstances. This will be done so that, on the one hand, the many doubts and questions which exist may be eliminated, and on the other hand, the holy realm of the leadership [marja'iat], the rule of the jurisconsult, will not be marred in history. In this way the enemies of Islam will not be able to question it.

3. Because our revolution began and achieved victory on the basis of divine and universal aims and ideals, it always considered itself responsible before deprived and oppressed nations. The leader of the revolution has repeatedly and explicitly stated that truth and large parts of those ideals, whether dealing with domestic or international issues, were raised in the recent message. For this reason I ask all the executive and ideological officials of the system, of the revolution, and all pure forces and faithful groups to respond to the message's very principled and constructive meaning. Do not be content with sloganeering and opportunistic methods, but respond in a practical manner and implement it and put it into action. [passage omitted]

It is everyone's duty to identify and pursue Islamic values and the external and internal ideals of the revolution inside, under any circumstances, and in all their dimensions,

whether ideological, political, cultural, economic or military. It must be said that the identification and training of the necessary forces, persons, and cadres toward realizing the divine ideals and aims of the revolution do not have any less value than the revolution itself. In fact, many of the blows and difficulties suffered by the system and by the revolution are a consequence of the lack of strong and suitable cadres for the various dimensions of the revolution, of not using the existing faithful forces, or of possibly isolating and corrupting them. Who is more suitable and appropriate than our leader for eliminating that contradiction and that great vacuum? He himself has endured many hardships for years in order to bring the struggle and the revolution to fruition and who has endured many difficulties and hardships.

In the current revolutionary circumstances, the formation of ideological cells is one of the important duties that must exist at the level of the country's executive institutions, and of ideological, research, planning, and thinking institutions, and with the use of capable planning forces so that the revolution may continue its splendor and success in all dimensions.

4. Just as his eminence the imam has noted, our resistant nation and brave armed forces must not think that the enemy conspiracies have come to an end or imagine that the wickedness and thoughts of aggression no longer exist. The Zionist authorities have expressed anxiety about the acceptance of a cease-fire and the resolution. It can be sensed therefore, that in the current stage of the revolution, the Zionists' suspect agents in the region and in the United States are trying to encourage Iraq in any way possible in its acts of aggression and wickedness in order to provoke the Islamic Republic of Iran to respond and continue the war.

For that reason, while stressing the ("need for) complete vigilance by the country's political officials, it is necessary that the armed forces brothers, the IRGC, the mobilization and other popular and fighting forces take the necessary steps and maintain the necessary preparedness. They must do this just as before, for the provision and dispatch of the required forces to the fronts for the sake of holy defense, the protection of the country's borders, and in order to stop the enemy's aggression and wickedness. They should remain as determined and as firm as before and not allow the enemy's new ploy to come to fruition.

5. A few years ago, I declared 2-9 August as the Velayat and Imamate Week. [passage omitted] This year, considering the special circumstances surrounding the revolution, our nation is undergoing a great divine test. On the one hand, the global enemies of Islam and the revolution are cheerful and happy and the friends of the revolution and Muslims of the world are unhappy about the bitter conditions that have befallen the Iranian nation. On the other hand, our nation anxiously and sadly heard the humble and noble words of the leader, and was upset by the bitterness and hurt of his excellency.

Under these circumstances, I call on the dear Iranian nation to honor the position of Imamate and Velayat and reiterate its allegiance to the imam of the ummah, may God extend his shadow; to declare to his excellency that they are faithful to him; to declare once again that they are present on all the scenes of revolution; to declare their readiness to defend and protect Islam and the revolution and the leadership, and on 2 August, the 'Id al-Ghadir, the start of the Velayat and Imamate Week, the day of reiteration of allegiance to the imam of the ummah, to stage a glorious march, shouting crushing slogans against the United States, the USSR, world blasphemy, and usurper Israel, and once again declaring their total allegiance and all-round presence on the scene of the holy battle and war and the fight between good and evil, at any time, in any place. They should ask the country's officials, in accordance with the strict instructions of the leadership, to lay basic plans for the reconstruction of the country at all levels; prepare for fundamental struggle against the United States and Israel and all manifestations of insolence and bullying; and to take steps so that, God willing, with full coordination, all committed fighters and Muslims from all Islamic countries would soon make plans for a 100 million-strong march toward dear Jerusalem, to liberate the first Mecca of Muslims and occupied Palestine from occupying and usurper Zionists and to concentrate all facilities towards this great goal.

Finally, I deem it necessary to humbly express my praise and gratitude to all classes of you self-sacrificing nation, who have all been tested, who have put up with hardship and unbearable suffering during the 8-year imposed war, particularly the wounded, the maimed, the homeless, honorable families of martyrs, POW's, and the missing, those standard-bearers of the eternal saga of the war between good and evil. [passage omitted] Peace and God's mercy be upon you all.

[Signed] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, Saturday, 23 July 1988

Khamene'i Message Read to Nation

LD2407112488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0949 GMT 24 Jul 88

["Message" to the nation by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Honorable hojjat ol-eslams and ayatollahs, Friday imams of the country, may your blessings increase. As you know, after being driven out of our dear Islamic homeland, the aggressor enemy has again, with the assistance of the world enemies of Islam, resumed his aggression and has crossed the border at several points. His evil intention is to establish, before the implementation of Resolution No 598 and the establishment of a cease-fire, a superior military position and a strong geographic base. Being in a superior

position, he can then, in the negotiations over the clauses of the resolution, raise conditions and inflict misfortunes on our brave and revolutionary nation with bullying and arrogance.

He who has repeatedly seen in the battlefield the lightning thrusts of our fighters' capabilities and divine power, and who has, with desperation and wretchedness, begged for a cease-fire from the Iranian nation, is revealing his war-loving nature with arrogance, resulting from his temporary strength. Without learning a thing from the bitter lesson of his warmongering, he has again stupidly stepped into the jungle of the lions' of God and is freely walking toward the precipice.

Saddam's supporters, who are interminably vindictive toward Islam and the revolutionary Iranian nation—the same people who were cunningly speaking of peace until yesterday and who blamed us for not accepting Resolution No 598—are today trying to force Islamic Iran to sign a shameful agreement.

Despite their previous superficial claims, they are secretly encouraging the stupid, arrogant, and unwise ruler of Baghdad to continue his aggression and to delay the implementation of Resolution No 598. These are the same people who, during 8 years of war, have continuously helped him with money, weapons, and publicity, and are now seeking to implement the results of their criminal cooperation by weakening and defeating Iran and Islam.

The superpowers of East and West are hoping to present our revolutionary nation as defeated. The world-devourers are hoping to bring crashing down the liberation flag of the Muslims which was raised by our nation's strong hands. The cannibalistic monsters are hoping to darken the light of God in our nation and the lightning of hope in the heart of oppressed nations. They have combined their forces and will resort to any criminal method in order to inflict on the Islamic Republic a military defeat followed by a political defeat in order to take revenge on our resistant and revolutionary nation.

Believing that the Iranian nation is tired of war, they have planned to inflict wretchedness on this proud nation and to calm the 10-year-old fire of their hatred. They do not know that a God-seeking and self-sacrificing nation, which has broken the chains of servitude to the superpowers and climbed to the heights of service to God, will never succumb to oppression. Those black-hearted ones have not understood that a nation which, with faith in God and confidence in itself, has made its cry of honor heard in the skies will never succumb to wretchedness and humiliation. Oh, let it be forbidden that we should be wretched!

They have forgotten how, when this wicked conspiracy began 8 years ago in exactly the same way by the Aflaqi Ba'ath Party, the revolutionary strength and the Islamic faith of the people foiled all their plans.

They have forgotten the selflessness of our nation which, in the harshest circumstances, rushed to the assistance of its armed forces and turned the battleground into a platform for the corpses of the Iraqi aggressors. They have not understood that, at the climax of the crusade for God, people from all sections and groups, eager and impatient, rush to confront the enemy and will turn thousands into a shield against any misfortune for Islam, for the revolution, and for the dear homeland.

No, they have not understood our imam or our nation. We accepted the resolution so that, if that aggressor and wicked thief of Baghdad had truly come to regret his action and had repented, we would not have given an excuse to our enemies and would have answered the United Nations' call to peace. However, now that his trickery and lies are clearly seen by everyone, and now that our consistent words have been proven, and now that the aggressor army has again stepped on to the pure land of Islamic Iran, the only appropriate reply is to use weapons.

Today the nation must rush to the assistance of the armed forces. Today hearts and wills, bodies and lives must be mobilized for the defense of the dear homeland, of the Ka'bah of hope for the oppressed and the lofty home of Islam and the Koran. Today all sections of the people must say yes to the call of their imam and consider the crushing of the enemy as the most important duty. The ulema must be the vanguard and the standard-bearers of this great movement, and they must prove once again their selflessness in the path of God and Islam. The Friday imams, in particular, must correctly understand the great responsibility which falls upon them in these extremely sensitive and determining moments in the history of Islam.

With deep understanding of the importance of the moment and admitting that at this sensitive juncture holy war and martyrdom are two-fold duties, I will take my worthless body and life to the fronts of justice and present myself for the performance of divine duty and obligation. I ask you, also, to join me and to fall into step beside me. May God's peace and blessings be upon you all.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Friday imam of Tehran, 24 July 1988.

Departs for Fronts 23 Jul

LD2407154488 Tehran IRNA in English 1435 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 24, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i left here for the war fronts Saturday night to join the Muslim combatants. The president in a message broadcast on Tehran radio Sunday called on Iranian people to join the battlefields and defend the country.

Referring to the recent Iraqi aggressions the president said (Iraqi ruler) Saddam's supporters who have a deeply-rooted hostility towards revolutionary Iranian nation, and those who hypocritically chanted peace slogans and

blamed Iran for not accepting Resolution 598, are now plotting to force the Islamic Republic to sign a humiliating agreement (with Iraq).

He said they have helped the Ba'thist regime with money, arms and propaganda during the almost eight years of the war, adding that they are trying to benefit from the sinister outcome of their criminal collaboration by weakening and defeating Islam and Iran.

The East and the West superpowers who are seeking to portray revolutionary Iranians as "a defeated nation" have conspired to humiliate Iran and thus quell their 10-year-old rancor towards the Iranian people. "They do not know that this nation which has broken the chains of slavery to superpowers, will never give in to humiliation," Khamene'i stressed.

He said Iran accepted the Resolution 598 and the U.N. peace call in order to deprive the Iraqi enemy of any pretext but now the Iraqi regime's true nature has been unmasked.

"Now that the Iraqi troops have stepped in the Islamic territory of Iran, no response except that of weapon is permissible," the president remarked.

Majlis Sends Note Supporting Khomeyni Message LD2307180588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 July 88

[Text] In the wake of the recent message of the imam of the ummah on the occasion of hajj, the anniversary of the Mecca tragedy, as well as the acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution No 598, the Majlis deputies have sent a note to Imam Khomeyni expressing their complete support for the comments made by the imam

We, the representatives of the nation in the Third Majlis, once again announce that in all arenas, particularly in the legislature, will spare no effort in implementing the objectives of our gracious imam. We will always be vigilant on the social, economic, cultural, and military fronts.

The Majlis now has an opportunity to enlighten itself with this invigorating message and to analyze its constructive points in the Majlis committees. Thus, we hope to implement the decrees in the message, a blessed divine message, and take effective measures by fulfilling our duties to the imam and the ummah.

Musavi-Ardabili Delivers 'Id al-Adha Address LD2507084288 Tehran IRNA in English 0813 GMT 25 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 25, IRNA—Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili today said Imam Khomeyni's acceptance of the U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 had "doubled his popularity."

The resolution which calls for ceasefire between Iran and Iraq in their almost 8-year-old war, was accepted by Tehran last week. Iraq had announced it has accepted the resolution passed by the council last year but with Tehran's approval, Baghdad's brand of accepting the ceasefire plan was unveiled to the world.

Speaking to a huge crowd of Muslim worshippers at Tehran University campus and its nearby streets on the occasion of the 'Id of Sacrifice, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili said despite Iran's endorsement of the U.N. ceasefire plan, the Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn had repeated his 'historic mistake' by launching renewed aggressions against Iran.

The prayer leader said the Baghdad ruler had wrongly imagined that the Iranian people no more enjoyed past enthusiasm in support of the war and therefore he once again invaded Iran's Islamic homeland but "he tasted its bitter result yesterday."

Iran's Muslim combatants on Sunday forced the aggressor Iraqi troops to pull back from most of the Iranian territory they had occupied in fighting over the past three days. Heavy casualties and losses were inflicted on the enemy forces in fierce battles which broke out Friday, the day Iraq began advances inside Iran by resorting to extensive use of chemical weapons.

Ever since it invaded Islamic Iran in September 1980, the Baghdad regime has been resorting to extensive deployment of internationally banned chemical weapons against Iran's forces to check their advance in the war fronts and compensate for its bitter military defeats.

With the responsible international bodies failing to condemn Iraq for its unmanly use of these fatal weapons which has so far killed and maimed tens of thousands of troops and civilians, the Baghdad regime was encouraged to continue using chemical substances and even openly admit their use.

Halabjah was one of the worst instances of the Iraqi use of chemical weapons and this time against its own people.

After Iran captured the northeastern town of Halabjah in Iraq's Al-Sulaymaniyeh Province in March last year, waves of Iraqi planes appeared over the Kurdish town and dropped tons of chemical weapons on the head of the innocent children, women and men only because they had welcomed Iran's victorious forces. The consequence of this dastardly attack was disgusting: Over 5,000 people were killed and 7,000 other maimed. The United Nations Security Council only simply deplored the use of chemical weapons in the Iraq-Iran war without even naming Iraq despite an earlier U.N. explicit condemnation of the Baghdad regime for its chemical warfare.

The failure of the Security Council, under the influence of the oppressive powers, to condemn Iraq for the chemical holocaust it created in Halabjah gave Baghdad the go-ahead with its inhuman chemical attacks against Iranian forces to pave the way for its advances.

In the battles over the past few days Iran's Muslim forces had to withdraw from some areas heavily contaminated by Iraq chemical weapons in order to minimize casualties. But following the order by the leader of the Islamic Revolution urging Iranian youth to fill the war fronts and teach Saddam due lesson, thousands of volunteer forces rushed to the battle scene to join their fellow combatants in forcing the aggressors to retreat to the international borders.

The developments in the war fronts last week proved one thing to the entire world—that Iraq's Saddam Husayn, despite his deafening peace calls, is the real war-monger and cannot be trusted and that his thirst for aggression and criminality is insatiable. This is what even those big and small states backing Baghdad during the eight years of its aggression against Iran, have very well realised, with some even admitting this in their news analyses.

In similar ceremonies held throughout the Islamic Republic today, people voiced their preparedness and determination to be despatched to the war fronts and defend their Islamic homeland against the enemies of the Islamic Revolution.

Praising Iranian troops who "fought Saddam's aggressor army with all their might and forced the enemy to retreat with humiliation" Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili urged the youth and those who have completed military training and "are able to defend Islam and the Koran" to depart for the war fronts hand-in-hand.

Referring to Ayatollah Montazeri's call to the nation for an "allegiance with the Imam" rally on Aug. 2 (coinciding with 'Id al-Kabir), Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili said people's massive presence in the march will have an effect "stronger than that of the atomic bomb" and "more than anything else it will disappoint arrogance."

Meanwhile, Tehran Radio interrupted normal programs this morning and began playing martial music. The radio said reports reaching here from the southern fronts indicated that Iranian forces had attacked enemy positions in the Zayd region early today inflicting another bitter defeat on the enemy forces. It said another 40 sq. km of Iranian land was regained during the Iranian offensive.

Musavi Praises People's Turn-Out for Fronts
LD2407172388 Tehran IRNA in English 1714 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 24, IRNA—Suppression of the Iraqi occupation forces in southern, central, and northwestern sectors, the cites of the enemy's all-out invasion against the Islamic Republic during Saturday and Sunday was discussed in today's cabinet session.

The cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi, lauded the people's turn out for the war fronts and appreciated them for turning the battlefields into a vast graveyard for the enemy forces.

The unreliable nature of the Iraqi ruler and his Ba'thist Party was stressed in the session and the cabinet emphasized the necessity for the presence of people and trained forces at the war fronts.

At the end of the session, Musavi announced the government's support for Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri's call on the Iranian Muslims to reaffirm their allegiance to Imam Khomeyni by staging nationwide rallies on the occasion of 'Id al-Qabir, 18th Dhu al-Hijjah, (August 2), the day Imam 'Ali (A.S.) was appointed as successor by prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.), which is also the first day of velayat (leadership) week.

Musavi also stressed that government employees and officials would participate in the proposed rally and in the holy struggle against the enemy forces.

Volunteer Forcees Urged To Go to Battlefronts

IRGC Calls For Volunteers

NC2207191288 Tehran Television Service in Persian
1700 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Statement issued by the Mobilization of the Oppressed unit of the IRGC on 22 July—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O combatant and heroic Basijis of Iran! Despite the acceptance of Resolution No 598 by the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Ba'thist-Zionist enemy has continued his wiles and, with renewed aggression against our Islamic homeland, has once again turned its back upon the resolution adopted by international organizations.

Today his eminence the imam said: O revolutionary children, pay attention because today is the day for presence on the fronts. Do not think that the war has ended. Arm yourselves with the armor of faith and holy war, because the treacherous enemy does not deserve mercy.

In view of this, it is appropriate that, as of now, all the centers of IRGC Mobilization of the Oppressed units and mobilization cadres all over the country should take swift measures to absorb the people's forces. They should be on highest alert for an extensive dispatch of mobilization forces to the fronts, in order to deal a response to the fresh aggression of the Ba'thist enemy, who has once again resumed his provocations on the orders of his mentors, so that we may give a teeth-shattering answer to these acts of aggression.

Volunteers To Apply 'Immediately'

NC2307050388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] The General Command Staff studied the situation on the fronts and the latest developments in the imposed war during a meeting last night in the presence of the acting commander in chief. At the end of this meeting, the following statement was issued:

In the name of God, the almighty, the compassionate. As was expected, despite the official acceptance of Resolution No 598 by the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Ba'thist regime ruling Iraq continues its wicked and aggressive acts. The bombing of civilian centers, the Iraqi Army's attack along the entire front, the re-occupation of parts of the Islamic homeland, the utilization of chemical weapons, and the shelling of border cities and villages during the past few days are proof of this.

The General Command Staff calls on the noble and resistant Iranian nation to alertly show their complete readiness to confront the recent aggressions by the Ba'thist regime of Iraq, and, by further strengthening the front, to thwart the enemy from continuing its wicked acts.

The General Command Staff seriously wants all the trained forces that are ready to go to the fronts to apply immediately to resistance bases for rapid dispatch.

The great nation will be informed of the other decisions taken by the staff for the strengthening of the fronts at a later date.

[Date] 1 Mordad 1367 [23 July 1988]

[Signed] The General Command Staff

Forces From Dezful, Fars, Qom

LD2307114088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Summary] We begin the hour's news report with reports about the rapid dispatch of fresh mobilization forces from various parts of the country.

During last night and today, a large number of trained and reserve forces from Dezful left for the fronts under the title of special convoy. Following reports of new Iraqi aggressions in various axes, popular volunteer forces eagerly reported to the IRGC mobilization units in Dezful and surrounding villages and rapidly left for the warfronts.

The brave ones of the Fars province participated today in marches and declared their total preparedness to confront the enemy. In addition, following a General Command Headquarters statement, the al-Qabir battalion, consisting of the IRGC brothers from Fars province's Islamic Revolution Committee, left Shiraz for the fronts this afternoon.

The Central News Unit reports that a large number of combative forces from Bushehr province also left from various cities for the battlefields last night and today. The report states that a large group of combative forces from Karazerun and Mamasani responded this morning to the Imam of the ummah's call and also to the General Command Headquarters statement and left for the warfronts.

On the basis of another report, a large group of clergymen from the Qom seminary also left for the battlefields today from Qom.

Volunteers From Provinces, Cities

NC2407071388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0330 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Responding to the call by the General Command Headquarters and in order to thwart the mischiefs by the aggressive Iraqi regime, a large number of combat forces left for the war theaters from the Provinces of Fars, East Azarbayjan, Hormozgan, Khorasan, Lorestan, and Yazd, and from the cities of Kerman and Birjand. They were warmly seen off by the people.

Karrubi Addresses Volunteers

LD2407130688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Following the savage onslaught by the Iraqi Zionist Ba'thist regime against our country's border and in reply to the call of the General Command Headquarters for fresh forces, Islamic Revolution Committee forces from all over the country, consisting of commanders, clergymen, and trained specialist forces under the title of the Convoy of Allegiance to the Imam, left for the fronts this morning. Islamic Revolution Committee forces from throughout the country gathered in front of the Majlis, chanted slogans of "Death to America" and "Death to Saddam," and condemned the inhuman actions of the Ba'thist enemy in the past few days. The enemy, using resources from all over the world and mercenary soldiers, has embarked on savage attacks on the Islamic Republic of Iran's borders.

In the dispatch ceremonies of the Islamic Revolution Committee, which was attended by a group of Majlis deputies, ministers, and other officials, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi, deputy speaker of the Majlis, referred to the conspiracies of global arrogance against the Islamic Revolution. He said: Our confrontation now is with global blasphemy, and the victory of the Islamic Republic in the imposed war is a victory for belief. Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Karrubi added: Our Muslim people, with obedience to the leadership, have stood up to all conspiracies and they will defend the achievements of the Islamic Revolution with all their might.

The Majlis deputy speaker referred to the recent actions of the Iraqi regime and its onslaught against our country's borders, and stressed: The forces of Islam will again drive the Iraqi regime back and they will force it to defeat.

'Thousands' of Guards, Volunteers

LD2407132088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] According to reports from Central News Unit's reporters, thousands of Islamic Revolution Committee revolution guards, consisting of commanders, clergymen, and trained specialist forces, under the title of allegiance to the imam of the ummah, left for the fronts this morning with a warm send-off from the Hezbollah people after gathering in front of the Majlis and chanting slogans of "Death to America" and "Death to Saddam."

According to the Central News Unit, thousands of volunteer and trained mobilization forces and redispach forces left yesterday and today for the war fronts from the cities of Izeh, (Baq-Malek), Hendijan, Shushtar, Hamadan, Nahavand, (Shareza), and (?Borkhuar) amid enthusiastic send-offs by the people. The report also states, in continuation of the rapid dispatch of the strong fighters of Islam, a large group of the IRGC fighters and Islamic Revolution Committee forces of the provinces of Gilan, Hormozgan and Eastern Azarbayjan and the cities of Shahrud, Semnan, Damgheh, Garmsar, Yasur, Fereydun, and Karaj left for the fronts yesterday and today under the title of the special convoy of his holiness Muhammad, Mecca's special bloody Friday section.

In the meantime, a well-informed military source, referring to the current attacks of the Iraqi regime, stressed the need for the extensive presence of popular forces for the defense of the Islamic homeland.

Guards, Revolution Committee Members

LD2407130788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Excerpt] In continuation of the rapid departure of the forces of Islam to the war fronts, large groups of revolutionary guards and Islamic Revolution Committee members left for the fronts from Esfahan, Yasuj, Semnan, Shiraz, Kerman, Tabriz, and Rasht. [passage omitted]

Combat Operations in War With Iraq Continue

Communique No 3,271

LD2207152088 Tehran IRNA in English 1506 GMT
22 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 22, IRNA—Iranian Muslim combatants killed and wounded 1,500 Iraqi troops and captured a group of others in Dopaza [placename as received] and Piranshahr operational theaters, northwestern fronts, the 3271st Joint Staff Communique reported here today.

It added that Iraqi troops launched wide assaults against the Iranian positions in several war fronts since day-break Friday, but sustained heavy casualties and losses by dauntless resistance of the Iranian forces.

Iranian jets in their routine patrol missions over the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman reconnoitered 86 foreign vessels Thursday, while Iranian naval forces controlled sea lane routes, oil rigs and islands in their patrol of the coastal and international waters of the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman Thursday.

Southern anti-aircraft units also repelled an unidentified helicopter which attempted to approach Abu Musa Island on the same day.

Two Iranian villages of Kerend [one name as received], Bakhtaran Province, were chemically bombed by the Iraqi troops, today.

Iraq Renews Chemical Attacks

LD2307104788 Tehran IRNA in English 1034 GMT
23 Jul 88

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 23, IRNA—Iraqi war planes chemically bombed two villages of 'Pirch' and 'Tagh Tough' [placenames as received] suburbs of Gilan-e Gharb early Saturday morning. In this latest Iraqi raid carried out by rockets a large number of villagers were wounded who were immediately taken to nearby hospitals. The two villages are located on Pol-e Zahab and Gilan-e Gharb road.

Meanwhile Iraqi planes later on bombarded Aliabad village near Eslamabad-e Gharb in Bakhtaran Province injuring several people and damaging farms.

Iraqi Forces Take Gilan-e Gharb

LD2307162188 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT
23 July 88

[Text] Tehran, July 23, IRNA—Iraqi troops by extensively using chemical weapons occupied the western city of Gilan-e Gharb today. The aggressors also captured Sar-e Pol-e Zahab garrison in western Iran Saturday afternoon, using the same dastard tactic.

The new aggression Iranian territory follows Iran's acceptance of U.N. Resolution 598 calling for ceasefire in the almost 8 year old Iraqi war. A bare 24 hours after Tehran's historic announcement last Monday, Baghdad which until now had feigned peace responded with air raids on two key industrial installations in southern Iran.

The fresh thrust into Iran and the use of toxic gases for the umpteenth time not only confirms Ba'thist Baghdad's inherent barbarity, but also proves true to world bodies the fears voiced many times by Iran over the dangers of trusting Saddam Husayn.

Air Force Bombs Iraqi Positions

LD2307105488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announce: The brave and proud Iranian Air Force pilots, in support of the relentless battle of the mighty fighters of Islam against the aggressor Iraqi forces, and in defense the Islamic homeland, today, in 25 separate sorties, at 0810, 0815, 0915, 0920, 0935, 0950, 0955, 0958, 1000, 1040, 1045, 1100, 1110, 1125, 1130, 1135, 1215, 1220, 1225, 1228, 1230, 1240, 1255, 1300 and 1330 heavily bombed enemy troop positions and armored equipment in Shalamcheh, Khushk, Maymak, and Qasr-e Shirin sectors. After inflicting heavy losses and casualties on the Saddamites, they all returned safely to base.

Iraqi Planes Violate Airspace

LD2307110488 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] The aggressor Iraqi regime's aircraft, at around noon today, violated the airspace of the cities of Ilam, Bakhtaran, Sanandaj, and Hamadan. According to IRNA reports, the enemy aircraft, after being confronted by the defensive measures of the fighters of Islam, were forced to flee. As they left, they broke the sound barrier.

Iraqi Troops Near Ahvaz

LD2307121388 Tehran IRNA in English 1202 GMT
23 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 23, IRNA—Iraqi aggressor troops have reportedly launched a heavy attack against Iranian combatants in Khushk region in the southern front and advanced again inside the Iranian territory.

A report reaching here at 14:00 hours local time (10:30 GMT) said enemy troops have stationed 40 kms from Ahvaz, the provincial capital of Khuzestan.

According to the report Iranian combatants are engaged in a hand-to-hand battle with the aggressor Iraqi forces.

Meanwhile, Iranian combatants pushed back enemy troops from Imam 'Ali headquarters in Shalamcheh axis, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on them. Bodies of hundreds of Iraqi soldiers are scattered in the battle scene.

150 Iraqi Casualties in Northwest

LD2307151788 Tehran IRNA in English 1511 GMT
23 Jul 88

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., July 23, IRNA—Iran's Muslim combatants crushed an Iraqi attack on the border region of Oshnoviyeh in northwestern Iran today, killing and wounding at least 150 enemy soldiers and capturing 35 others.

Several officers and NCO's are among Iraqi soldiers captured during the aborted enemy attack.

Communique No 3,272

*LD2307165988 Tehran IRNA in English 1653 GMT
23 Jul 88*

[Text] Tehran, July 23, IRNA—Iranian Air Force pilots flew 51 sorties heavily bombing Iraqi positions over Qasr-e Shirin, Maymak, Sumar, Shalamchah, and Kushk operational theatres Saturday, said a military communique here today.

The 3272nd communique of the Joint Staff Command said all Iranian Air Force fighters returned safely to their bases after inflicting substantial casualties and damage on Iraqi forces.

Iran's Muslim combatants repelled Iraqi attacks in most of the northwestern and southern fronts over the past 24 hours. In one of the war theatres, an Iranian patrol unit killed and wounded several enemy troops and captured some others on Thursday.

In the northwestern fronts, the Muslim forces of Iran shelled Iraqi positions and fortifications, disrupting movements of enemy vehicles in Panjwin and Sayyid Sadiq operational regions.

Engineering activities of Iraqi forces were also brought to a halt in Sar Dasht region by the Muslim combatants who inflicted casualties and damage on the enemy. Exchange of fire was somewhat more intense in Kushk and Jofeyr.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces opened fire on Iraqi fortifications Friday, destroying part of their positions and killing or wounding several enemy troops.

In the southern waters, Iranian naval forces Friday kept all shipping traffic under control, concluded the communique.

Iraqi Losses Enumerated

*LD2307184788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1 630 GMT 23 Jul 88*

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to the following message we have just received. The Islamic fighters in the region to the north of Khorramshahr, Shalamchah, Zayd, the Hamid garrison and Kushk, while engaging the enemy forces in fierce hand-to-hand combat have routed the forces of the mercenary enemy and forced them to retreat.

In the course of the engagement, in addition to units already crushed with heavy losses, the following enemy units have also suffered considerable losses:

1. 6th Armored Division—80 percent [losses].
2. 1st Mechanized Division—70 percent.
3. 30th Armored Brigade—80 percent.
4. 25th Mechanized Brigade—80 percent

5. [words indistinct] Brigade—80 percent
6. 1st Commando Division—70 percent
7. 3d Armored Division—80 percent.
8. 1st Armored Brigade of the 9th Division—80 percent
9. 8th Mechanized Brigade—70 percent
10. 422d Infantry Brigade—60 percent.
11. 6th Armored Brigade—70 percent

Enemy casualties have so far exceeded 5,000 killed and injured. A number have also been captured, including a number of officers. The enemy armored vehicles captured by the Islamic fighters includes 200 tanks and armored personnel carriers.

IRGC Communique on Southern Front

*LD2307185188 Tehran IRNA in English 1709 GMT
23 Jul 88*

[Text] Tehran, July 23, IRNA—A military communique issued today said Iranian forces had blocked Iraqi advances in Kushk, Jofeyr and Hamid in the southern front and that heavy fighting was raging between the two sides to "force the aggressor forces of Saddam to retreat."

The communique issued by the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) said the enemy by deploying a major part of its army had crossed the international border and invaded Iran on Friday and continued its aggression Saturday morning.

It said in some sectors hand-to-hand fighting broke out between the two sides on Saturday and that in several axes including Kushk, Jofeyr and Hamid the advance of Iraqi forces were checked by Iran's Muslim combatants.

The communique said during the battles a number of Iraqi commanders including commander of Al-Qadisiyah Tank Battalion from Armoured Brigade 12 had been killed.

In the Hawr region, it said, the enemy continued its attacks by deploying Second Commando Brigade of the Seventh Corps but that it had sustained heavy losses in ensuing fighting. A yet unidentified Iraqis were also taken captive "who are being transferred behind the war fronts," it said. [sentence as received]

Giving an account of the battles over the past two days since Iraq launched its renewed aggression against Iran's Islamic homeland, the IRGC communique said the enemy invasion began early Friday morning, backed by heavy artillery fire, chemical weapons, helicopter gunships and warplanes and aimed at occupying the port city of Khorramshahr and Ahvaz-Khorramshahr road from Kushk, Zayd, and Shalamchah axes.

It said the valiant forces of Islam "with their hearts confident of divine victory" and "with their spirit filled with faith" to defend their Islamic homeland, began to suppress the aggressors.

The communique said the aggressor Iraqis were forced to retreat from Ahvaz-Khorramshahr road after many of their tanks, troops and other units from the Third Corps were destroyed. By Friday afternoon, it said, the enemy was forced to roll back from Kushk and Zayd axes and also retreat from Hoseyniyeh and Khorramshahr roads.

First Iraqi Mechanised Division was destroyed by 30 percent and Third Armored Division by 40 percent in Friday's fighting, it said.

In Shalamchah axis also, it said, the Muslim combatants put up brave resistance and blocked the advance of the aggressor forces. It said the following losses were inflicted on the enemy in this axis:

- Armored Division Six destroyed by 60 percent [PC],
- Armored Brigade 12 by 80 PC,
- Armored Brigade 30 by 30 PC,
- Armored Brigade 16 by 70 PC, and
- Mechanized Brigade 20 by 50 PC.

Iraq Bombs Karand-e Gharb

LD2407063188 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Bakhtarann, July 24, IRNA—Iraqi fighter planes at dawn Sunday bombed residential areas of Karand-e Gharb in this province martyring and injuring a large number of civilians. The attack also caused damage to homes.

Chemical Attack Repelled in Sumar

LD2407071388 Tehran IRNA in English 0655 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 24, IRNA—Muslim forces of Iran crushed an Iraqi attempt in Sumar region of the province Saturday night making them retreat and inflicting heavy losses and damage on them, said a military commander in the region Sunday morning.

The Baghdad forces in continuation of their new wave of aggression against international borders with massive use of chemical weapons and air support attempted to gain new positions in Sumar which was totally crushed. The Muslim forces reportedly halted the enemy while employing anti-chemical defence.

Large amounts of enemy munitions were damaged and bodies of Iraqi forces are seen in the area. Those captured are being transferred to the rear of the fronts. Fighting continues in Sumar region and the Iranian forces continue their destructive blows on the enemy.

50 Injured in Iraqi Air Attack

LD2407084688 Tehran IRNA in English 0838 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 24, IRNA—Iraqi warplanes martyred seven innocent people and wounded at least 50 as they bombed the western town of Karand-e Gharb Sunday morning. Several houses and shops were also damaged in the raid.

Iraqi Armored Division 'Destroyed'

LD2407091888 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0902 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] O heroic Iranian nation, please pay attention: Following intense actions by the fighters of Islam in the southern fronts of the country aimed at pushing back the aggressor Iraqi army from this region, the 3d Armored Division of Iraq has been destroyed by the brave Iranian mobilization forces. Tahir 'Abd al-Rashid, commander of this division, has been killed.

Enemy Repelled in Khuzestan

LD2407094988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0926 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] O heroic Iranian nation, pay attention. According to the IRGC General Command Headquarters, the victorious men of the army of monotheism consisting of the infantry and mechanized units of the IRGC Ground Forces, as well as the popular forces of Khuzestan Province who had bravely rushed to the forward positions of the battle, have succeeded through great and epic-making operations in pushing the enemy back and inflicting heavy casualties and damages. They pushed back an aggressor enemy who had advanced up to 4 km west of Khorramshahr at Pol-e No and had advanced to 45 km from the hero-nurturing city of Ahvaz, having occupied up to 50 km of the surfaced Ahvaz-Khorramshahr road and part of the Hamid garrison.

Iraqis Pushed Back in Sumar Area

LD2407102688 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0944 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] O fighting and resisting ummah. The brave and self-sacrificing men of the Ground Forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in cooperation with fast flying eagles of army aviation, in the operational zones of

Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb, Kanjan Cham, Tangeh Tarikheh, Tange Bina, and Tangeh Bibikheh [three previous place-names as received], in a lightning attack have pushed the forces of the aggressor Iraqi army back many kilometers, inflicting casualties and damages on them.

The defeated enemy, being confronted with the brave men of the army of Islam, have once again tasted defeat in the hands of the powerful forces of Islam. The enemy has fled, leaving behind numerous dead and some prisoners.

Iraqi Planes Drop Cluster Bombs

LD2407161288 Tehran IRNA in English 1556 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Bakhtaran, July 24, IRNA—Iraqi warplanes dropped cluster bombs on Eslamabad-Gilan-e Gharb axis at 08:45 GMT Sunday. Some civilians on their way behind the fronts were martyred and injured.

Meanwhile, some eight villagers were martyred and some others wounded when Iraqi warplanes bombed two villages in the suburbs of Eslamabad at 07:30 and 13:30 GMT Saturday.

Several houses and some wheat farms were damaged in the savage bombing of Iraqi planes.

IRGC Communique on Land Regained

LD2407104388 Tehran IRNA in English 1040 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 24, IRNA—A military statement issued today said Iran's Muslim combatants had regained 600 sq. kms of the Islamic homeland in the southern fronts under Iraqi occupation over the past three days.

It also said since Saturday afternoon so far, 4000 more Iraqi troops have been killed and wounded and many others taken captive of whom 150 have so far been moved behind the fronts.

The communique issued by the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) further said that Iranian forces had set ablaze 300 tanks and personnel carriers and seized 46 others intact.

The IRGC statement said the Iranian combatants had put up a valiant fight against aggressor enemy troops and regained their lost territory in Khuzestan Province in the general sector of Shalamchah, Khorramshahr-Ahvaz road, Hamid garrison and Jofeyr. It said the enemy had been forced to retreat to the international border in this region (south).

It also said that enemy aggressions in Hawr al-Hawizah were severely suppressed by the Iraqi mojahedin (of the Badr 9 Corps under the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq).

Two enemy battalions from commando brigade of the Sixth Corps were forced to flee the region after leaving behind hundreds of casualties.

A number of Iraqis including several officers and NCO's were also taken prisoners, the communique said.

The communique said 40 Iraqi boats loaded with weapons were destroyed and another 10 were seized by the Muslim combatants.

Iraqi Attack Repulsed in Maymak

LD2407132888 Tehran IRNA in English 1325 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Ilam, July 24, IRNA—Iran's Muslim combatants including volunteer and tribal forces repelled an Iraqi attack in Maymak region, western fronts, Sunday morning, inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy.

Corpses of Iraqi soldiers killed during their abortive attack are scattered around in the war theater and columns of heavy smoke can be seen from far distance billowing into the sky from the destroyed enemy tanks and other armoured hardware.

Pilots of the Iranian Army Aviation Service (Havaniruz) have played a key role in hunting enemy tanks and other armoured hardware and heavy Iranian artillery fire has paralyzed enemy troops in their positions.

Iraqis 'Badly Beaten,' Retreat

LD2407153588 Tehran IRNA in English 1519 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., July 24, IRNA—This oil rich province in southern Iran witnessed Iranian youths displaying their high spirit of resistance and their heroic self-sacrificing acts in the face of Iraqi occupation forces over the past 48 hours.

At least 9,000 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and many others captured during enemy's abortive attacks on this province over the said period.

The badly-beaten Iraqi troops, deployed on parts of the southern Iranian borders, are still attempting to continue their sinister plots against Iranian cities in Khuzestan. But, Iran's Muslim combatants are carefully watching any enemy movement.

On Friday, less than four days after Iran's formal acceptance of U.N. Resolution 598 which calls for ceasefire in the Iraqi-imposed war, enemy troops employing all their military equipment and using heavy chemical arms launched heavy attacks on Shalamchah, Jofeyr, Khushk and Zayd in southern fronts and occupied parts of Khorramshahr-Ahvaz road.

Shortly after Iraqi aggressive moves, Iranian volunteer forces fought pitched battles with Ba'thist troops, inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy and forced them to flee.

During the aborted enemy attacks, heavy losses in men and equipment were inflicted on the 1st Iraqi Mechanized Division, the 3rd and 6th Armoured Division and the 5th Division.

Today, the enemy by regrouping its military units by means of the most sophisticated Soviet-made T-72 and T-76 tanks as well as heavy chemical bombardment, managed to reoccupy parts of Ahvaz-Khorramshahr road for a short time but were later forced to retreat by Iranian combatants.

Also, early Sunday, at least 50 Iraqi gun-boats were either destroyed or seized intact in clashes between Iraqi troops and personnel of the Badr Corps 9 comprising Iraqi mujahidin, in Hawr al Hawzah.

3 Iraqi Battalions Routed

LD2407161588 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 24, IRNA—Iranian combatants in continuation of their valiant defence in southern fronts have totally routed Iraqi Armoured Battalion 5 of Infantry Division 19 and Battalion 3 of Infantry Brigade 53, killing or wounding all their personnel. The Muslim forces also destroyed 50 percent to 70 percent of Iraqi Mechanized Brigades 10 and 25 during their counterattacks.

Meanwhile, a report reaching here Sunday afternoon said Iranian combatants routed Second Battalion of Commando Brigade of Iraq's Sixth Corps, capturing a group of its personnel. Commander of the battalion, Major Azab Ahmad 'Abd [name as received], was also killed by the Muslim forces.

Iraqi Attack on Pol-e Zahab Halted

LD2407170188 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] Following Iraqi aggression on the Pol-e Zahab sector at noon today, the fighters of Islam attacked the enemy forces in the sector, inflicting heavy losses and casualties and halting enemy advance.

According to reports, the forces of Islam in the region set alight several enemy tanks and killed hundreds of enemy troops.

Relentless battle in the sector continues, with the forces of Islam having the upper hand in their efforts to halt enemy advance.

Communique No 3,273

LD2407174688 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT
24 Jul 88

[Text] Tehran, July 24, IRNA—Iranian jet fighters flew 21 combat sorties from 08:50 to 13:20 hours local time (05:20 to 09:50 GMT) Sunday, heavily bombing Iraqi positions and troop concentration sites and armoured units in Shalamchah, Hajj 'Umrān, Gilan-e Gharb, Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Qasr-e Shirin and Sumar.

Announcing the above here today, the 3273rd Joint Staff Communique said that all fighters returned safely to bases after inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy.

Iranian anti-aircraft fire shot down two Iraqi warplanes in Maymak and Ilam in western Iran at 07:37 and 12:12 hours (04:07 and 08:42 GMT), and blasted another Iraqi helicopter out of sky over a southern war theater at 11:37 hours local time (09:07 GMT).

On Saturday, Iranian Air Force jets on their routine patrol missions over the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman reconnoitered 46 vessels of various types, despite receiving a warning from a U.S. warship.

On the battlefields, Iran's Muslim combatants smashed 12 Iraqi assaults in Piranshahr and other northwestern theaters over the past 24 hours, inflicting irreparable casualties and losses on the enemy.

In Panjwin Saturday, an Iranian Army Division in a series of coordinated attacks on Iraqi troops liberated several key heights in the region and by opening heavy fire on the fleeing enemy forces inflicted heavy losses in men and equipment on them.

Pakistan

President Says Soviets Halt Afghan Pullout

BK2307130688 Hong Kong AFP in English 1303 GMT
23 Jul 88

[Text] Rawalpindi, Pakistan, July 23 (AFP)—The Soviet Union has stopped the withdrawal of its forces from Afghanistan and brought in 10,000 new troops. President Mohammad Ziaul Haq told a news conference here Saturday.

The troops had been brought in to defend Kabul, General Zia told the press conference for the foreign media.

"I have got the information that the Soviets have not only stopped the withdrawal of their forces but they have brought back 10,000 troops because Kabul was threatened by the mujahidin" resistance, Gen Zia said.

He said Moscow had informed the United Nations Good Offices Mission for Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP) of their decision and that it had been taken because "the situation in Kabul was untenable."

The Soviet Union had begun a nine-month phased withdrawal of its estimated 115,000 troops from Afghanistan in May under a U.N.-mediated accord between Islamabad and Kabul to end an eight-year intervention in Afghanistan.

Afghanistan on Wednesday called for U.N. intervention to stop increasing rocket attacks on Kabul by the mujahidin which have killed 75 people and wounded 38 in the past six weeks.

Gen Zia said the Soviet Union had so far pulled out 34,000 troops from Afghanistan, but "according to very reliable" reports had brought in 10,000 new troops to counter mujahidin threats on Kabul.

He said however that Moscow's decision to stop the troop withdrawal had not been officially conveyed to Pakistan, and "we are awaiting confirmation." He expressed the hope that the Soviet Union would abide by the April 14 Geneva accord as "faithfully as we are abiding by it," and dismissed Soviet allegations that Pakistan had been violating the agreement.

Gen Zia also dismissed recent Soviet reports that Afghan uranium ore was being smuggled into Pakistan. "We have plenty of uranium and there is no truth in this totally false Soviet propaganda," he added.

'Powerful Time Bomb' Explodes in Peshawar

BK2207151088 Hong Kong AFP in English 1506 GMT 22 Jul 88

[Excerpt] Islamabad, July 22 (AFP)—A powerful time bomb went off near an Army officers mess in the

garrison town of Peshawar bordering Afghanistan Friday, damaging several buildings but causing no casualties, official sources said. It was the first such blast targetting a military installation in Pakistan.

The time bomb was planted in front of the mess in the Peshawar Cantonment and left a three foot crater, shattered windows in the mess and nearby houses and damaged the wall of the mess compound, the sources said. No casualties were reported.

Official sources blamed Afghan-infiltrated "saboteurs" for the latest bomb attack. [passage omitted]

Curfew Remains in Effect in Hyderabad

BK2307024088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Jul 88

[Text] The Hyderabad District Administration has announced that until further orders, there will not be any relaxation in the curfew restrictions in effect in curfew bound areas. All curfew passes have been canceled.

Temporary passes will be issued on humanitarian considerations only under extremely essential circumstances. Workers of (essential) services will be able to move about on official business on presentation of their department identity cards. The announcement also says that any person found in possession of firearms will be shot without warning by law enforcement officials.

Foreign Minister Departs on Visit to U.S., USSR

BK2407064788 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 24 Jul 88

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, left Islamabad for Washington this morning on a visit to the United States at the invitation of the U.S. secretary of state, George Shultz. Later, he will visit the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze.

Speaking to newsmen before his departure, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said in the United States, besides exchanging views on bilateral matters, he will hold talks on regional issues. It includes the desirable situation arising out of Iran's acceptance of the UN Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for ending the Gulf war.